Bengaluru Tuesday, September 9, 2025 Pages 16 Vol 78 No 250 ₹7

www.deccanherald.com Follow us on @deccanherald

DH

DECCAN HERALD

The Power of Good

Jaishankar: Seek predictable trade environment

India tries balancing act amid hopes for thaw with the US

Page 5B

Business

Centre has brushed aside states' worry on GST: Kerala FM P.12

Sports

World's youngest ever GM Abhimanyu stuns Gukesh P.13

Nation

J&K AAP MLA held under PSA P.9

World

6 Israelis killed in Palestine attack P.10

2 soldiers, 2 militants killed in J&K encounter

ZULFIKAR MAJID
SRINAGAR, DHNS

Two soldiers and two militants were killed in an encounter that broke out during an anti-terror operation in Kashmir's Kulgam district on Monday, officials said.

The gunfight erupted in the forest of Gudar after Army, Jammu & Kashmir police and CRPF launched a joint search operation based on 'specific intelligence inputs' about the terrorist movement.

Officials said that two terrorists were eliminated in the encounter, while three soldiers, including a junior commissioned officer, suffered injuries. The injured soldiers were immediately evacuated to the Army's 92 Base Hospital in Srinagar, where two succumbed to injuries, reports said.

The identity of the slain militants is yet to be established, but security officials said they are believed to be foreigners. Police said the search operation is continuing in the area to ensure no other militants are hiding in the forest terrain.

Accept Aadhaar as 12th valid document for SIR: SC tells EC

Clarifies Aadhaar not a proof of citizenship, EC can verify its genuineness

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Monday asked the Election Commission to accept Aadhaar as the twelfth valid document for inclusion in the voters' list during the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in Bihar.

The court, however, clarified that Aadhaar is not proof of citizenship and that the poll panel is free to verify the genuineness of the document during the SIR.

"We direct the Election Commission of India and its authorities to accept Aadhaar card as a proof of identity for the purpose of inclusion or exclusion in the revised voter list of the State of Bihar. Aadhaar card, for this purpose, shall be treated as the 12th document by the authorities," a bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi said.

The court also directed the poll body to issue instructions in this regard by September 9 (Tuesday).

The EC had earlier listed 11 documents for the SIR.

Taking up a plea by the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and others, the bench acknowledged that Aadhaar is not a proof of citizenship, but keeping in view Section 23(4) of the Representation of People's Act, it is one of the documents for the purpose of establishing the identity of a person, it said.

"In view of the statutory status assigned to Aadhaar under the Aadhaar Act, it is not a proof of citizenship. However, keeping in view Section 23(4) of the RP Act, Aadhaar card is one document for the purpose of establishing the identity of any person," the bench said.

The bench recorded an undertaking on behalf of the Election Commission, represented by senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi, that Aadhaar will be accepted as a proof of identity during the SIR in Bihar.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for the RJD, contended that though the apex court issued three orders with regards to accepting Aadhaar during the SIR, the poll panel has yet not issued any instructions to its officials at the ground level to accept the document.

"If they cannot accept that, what kind of inclusion exercise are they carrying out? They want to exclude the poor," Sibal said.

Sibal said he did not want Aadhaar to be accepted as proof citizenship but a valid proof of identity for voters, as booth level officers (BLO) couldn't determine a person's citizenship.

▸ Aadhaar, Page 5

Takeaways from apex court

Bench refers to provisions of Aadhaar Act, Representation of People's Act

- Aadhaar is not alien to the RP Act
- Aadhaar can't be elevated as proof of citizenship
- It can be considered as a proof of identity
- Of the 11 prescribed documents, only passport and birth certificate are conclusive proofs
- Says that every document can be forged but the genuineness can be ascertained by authorities

"Aadhaar shall be treated as 12th document by the EC. However, it is open for the authorities to examine the genuineness of Aadhaar submitted by the voters. It is clarified that Aadhaar will not be treated as proof of citizenship

- SUPREME COURT

Priyank's fresh EVM scrutiny proposal

Karnataka IT/BT Minister Priyank Kharge has written to Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar with a fresh proposal to have the EVMs scrutinised under a court-monitored ethical hackathon. The Karnataka government will back this exercise, Priyank said, reiterating his demand to "rigorously test" the EVM architecture.
Details on Page 3

Big shift

- GBA is expected to plan for about 800 sq kms of area, while the BDA's role will be reduced to just 400 square kms
- This change is expected to reduce the BDA's dominance, as its revised jurisdiction covers areas with little development potential
- A notification is likely to be issued amending the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961
- Tushar Girinath, Addl CS, UDD, says the GBA will be responsible for preparing Bengaluru's master plan

New order: GBA to take over from BDA

Likely to be Bengaluru's main planning authority

DH SPECIAL

NAVEEN MENEZES
BENGALURU, DHNS

The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), long the city's main planning body, is set to lose its clout.

The state government has proposed transferring substantial planning powers to the newly formed Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), a change no government dared to experiment given the BDA's economic influence and political considerations.

In the new scheme of things, the GBA is expected to plan for about 800 square kms of area, which is a little over its present jurisdiction, while the BDA's role will be reduced to just 400 square kms, down from 1,200 sq km.

This change is expected to reduce the BDA's dominance, as its revised jurisdiction covers areas with little development potential.

A notification is likely to be issued amending the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961, to distribute the responsibilities among two authorities anytime soon.

Transferring the local planning area from one authority to another is a rare move.

It shifts the power to prepare a Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) or the master plan for Bengaluru; it also encompasses the authority to approve land use changes (CLU), new layouts and development plans.

In simple terms, builders and property developers will now make a beeline for the GBA instead of the BDA.

On top of that, the GBA will have the authority to shape Bengaluru's urban landscape, with powers related to zoning regulations, setback relaxations and height restrictions among others.

What's more, It can revise building byelaws and issue Transferable Development Rights (TDR) certificates.

▸ GBA, Page 5

The Greater Bengaluru Authority headquarters.

VP poll: BJD, BRS, Akalis to abstain from voting

CP Radhakrishnan and B Sudershan Reddy

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The BJD, the BRS and the Akali Dal will abstain from voting in the Vice Presidential election that will be held on Tuesday.

The BJD has 7 MPs, the BRS four and the Akalis one in the Rajya Sabha. With this, only 769 of the total 781 MPs in the electoral college will vote.

BJD Rajya Sabha floor leader Sasmit Patra said, "The BJD has decided to abstain from the vice presidential elections. The BJD remains equidistant from both the NDA and I.N.D.I.A alliances." The ruling NDA's C P Radhakrishnan and the Opposition's B Sudershan Reddy are squaring off against each other.

Details on Page 8

19 killed in Nepal in Gen Z protest over social media ban

KATHMANDU, AGENCIES

Nepal police on Monday opened fire, killing at least 19 people as thousands of young protesters took to the streets of Kathmandu demanding the government lift a social media ban and tackle corruption.

Several social media sites, including Facebook, YouTube and X, have been inaccessible in Nepal since Friday after the government blocked 26 unregistered platforms, leaving users angry and confused.

Thousands of youths, including school students, under the banner of Gen Z, converged in front of Parliament in the heart of Kathmandu and shouted anti-government slogans demanding immediate revocation of the ban. Protests spread to Pokhara, Butwal, Bhairahawa, Bharatpur, Itahari and Damak.

Nepal Police spokesperson Binod Ghimire said 17 people were killed in clashes in various parts of Kathmandu during the rally, and two protesters died in Sunsari district of eastern Nepal in police firing.

More than 400 people were injured, including over 100 police, according to the police.

Home Minister Ramesh Lekhak, who represents the Nepali Congress party in the coalition government led by Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli, has resigned on moral grounds, the Nepali Congress sources said.

Riot police personnel fire tear gas to disperse demonstrators in Kathmandu on Monday. AFP

Out of control

Thousands of youths converge in front of Parliament in Kathmandu and shout anti-govt slogans

- Demonstration turns violent when some protesters enter Parliament complex, prompting police to use water cannons, tear gas, and live rounds
- Nepali Army is deployed in the capital as situation worsens during the protest; curfew imposed in several places
- General perception among people is that the ban will lead to an attack on free speech

Quickly

Honda to invest Rs 600 cr in Kolar EV plant

Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India Limited (HMSI), a subsidiary of the Japanese auto major, will soon commission a new plant to produce electric two-wheelers adjacent to its Narasapura plant in Kolar district at an investment of Rs 600 crore, Honda's leadership has a delegation from Karnataka led by Industries Minister M B Patil.
Details on Page 12

Intel dept collects reports from Odanadi

Officials from the state intelligence department on Monday visited the office of Mysuru-based NGO Odanadi and collected its audit records of three years amid reports that the NGO is on the radar of Enforcement Directorate in connection with the Dharmasthala case. Odanadi director Parashuram said they handed over the documents sought by the officials.
Details on Page 3

Guarantees: CM wants list updation

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday directed officials to revise the list of beneficiaries under the 'guarantee' schemes of his government by removing the dead and those who are ineligible. The CM said dead beneficiaries must be listed every month at the panchayat level and the information must be shared with banks. Action must be taken to add and remove beneficiaries at the panchayat level, Siddaramaiah said.
Details on Page 3

US OPEN CROWN FOR ALCARAZ

Carlos Alcaraz of Spain celebrates after defeating Jannik Sinner of Italy in the US Open final in New York on Sunday. AFP

Report Page 13

Rains: Crop loss pegged at Rs 550 crore, says CM

BENGALURU, DHNS: Karnataka is estimated to have suffered crop losses to the tune of Rs 550 crore due to heavy rainfall, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on Monday, adding that 111 persons have died since April this year.

After reviewing the rain situation, Siddaramaiah said farmers in the state have suffered crop losses on 5.20 lakh hectares. Of this, 99% of losses are in districts like Kalaburagi, Dharwad, Bidar, Belagavi, Bagalkot, Haveri and Vijayapura.

"The damage is estimated at Rs 550 crore. A joint survey has been ordered. We have asked for the report within 10 days," Siddaramaiah said.

For crop losses during pre-monsoon, the government has paid Rs 21.93 crore to 20,244 farmers.

Between April 1 and September 7, as many as 111 people have died due to rain-induced flooding. "All of them have been given compensation at Rs 5 lakh each. The government has provided Rs 5.5 crore compensation in total," Siddaramaiah said.

▸ Crop loss, Page 5

Kharge slammed for rebuking farmer, Page 4

Stone pelting: Maddur bandh today; 21 held

MADDUR (MANDYA DIST), DHNS

Tension prevailed in Maddur in Mandya district on Monday following the stone-throwing incident during Ganesha idol immersion procession on Sunday evening. Twenty-one people were arrested in connection with stone-throwing and produced before the court.

Thousands of additional police personnel from neighbouring districts were deployed in Maddur to prevent trouble on Monday. Hindu outfits called for a 'Maddur bandh' on Tuesday and the district administration imposed prohibitory orders till 6 am on Wednesday.

Eight people who were injured in the stone-throwing incident are being treated at Maddur Taluk Hospital. Members of Hindu outfits claim that a few home guards, police personnel and women too were injured, but the police are yet to confirm it.

Despite prohibitory orders, thousands of people belonging to various Hindu outfits, including BJP and Bajrang Dal, swaying saffron flags, took out a procession condemning the incident.

The procession started near Ugra Narasimhaswamy temple and passed through the main roads.

▸ Maddur, Page 5

Action as per law, says CM, Page 3

Hindu outfits take out a protest march in Maddur on Monday. DH PHOTO

HIMALAYAN FEAT

Six wild cat species recorded above 4,200 m in Arunachal

SUMIR KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI, DHNS

In what has been described as a landmark wildlife record, an expert team of conservationists has identified six wild cat species, including the elusive Pallas's cat, above 4,200 metres in Tawang and West Kameng districts of Arunachal Pradesh, bordering Tibet.

The discovery came after a team of surveyors from the World Wide Fund for Nature-India (WWF India) installed 136 camera traps, between July and September 2024, at 83 locations across 2,000 km² of rugged high-altitude rangelands.

They recorded snow leopard, common leopard, clouded leopard, leopard cat, marbled cat and Pallas's cat at altitudes above 4,200 m.

During the extensive exercise, the team recorded first-ever photographic evidence of the elusive Pallas's cat in the Himalayan state.

The survey documented the highest elevation records for several species -- common leopard (Panthera pardus) at 4,600 metres above sea level (MASL), clouded leopard (Neofelis nebulosa) at 4,650 MASL, marbled cat (Pardofelis marmorata) at 4,326 MASL, Himalayan wood owl (Strix nivicolum) at 4,194 MASL and grey-headed flying squirrel (Petaurista caniceps) at 4,506 MASL.

"The elevation records documented for the common leopard, clouded leopard, marbled cat, Himalayan wood owl and grey-headed flying squirrel were the highest in India to date and may exceed previously known global elevation limits," WWF-India said in a report on Monday.

Pallas's cat. PHOTO COURTESY: WWF-INDIA

The WWF-India said the survey was conducted with guidance from local communities and support from the Arunachal Pradesh forest department, under its project 'Reviving Trans-Himalayan Rangelands–A Community-led Vision for People and Nature'.

The project is funded by the UK Government. The WWF-India team was led by Rohan Pandit, Taku Sai, Nisam Luxom and Pemba Tsering Romo under the guidance of Rishi Kumar Sharma, Head for WWF-India's Science and Conservation, Himalayas Programme.

▸ Wild cat, Page 5

Bescom seeks rate hike for industries

BENGALURU, DHNS: Bescom has petitioned the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) to cut power supply charges for agricultural pumpsets by 95 paisa per unit and raise them for industrial and commercial establishments by 10 paise to Re 1 per unit to offset revenue shortfalls.

This is for the first time in the recent past that the power utility has submitted a petition to the KERC to review the tariffs, which were announced in March 2025.

Details on Page 4

BDA to host sale deed mela for homebuyers from Oct 3-16

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) will organise a two-week sale deed registration mela for its properties, including flats and villas, from October 3 to 16.

The mela aims to ease the process for over 400 homebuyers yet to register houses in their names. It applies to those who have already received allotment letters.

In a press note, the BDA urged buyers to submit the required documents — Aadhaar, PAN, self-affidavit, bank NOC and photo attestation form — and make the full payment by September 30.

Registrations will be held at the BDA head office on a first-come, first-served basis for those completing the process.

3-day free training programme for farmers

BENGALURU, DHNS: A three-day free training programme for farmers on agriculture-related sub-sectors is being organised from September 10 to 12 by the District Agriculture Training Centre in Anekal taluk.

Some of the skills taught in the training include beekeeping, mushroom cultivation, fishing and hydroponics, among others.

Farmers interested in the initiative can call 6363695621, according to a press release.

Poster exhibition on till Sept 13

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Indian Institute of World Culture will host a poster exhibition celebrating legends of Indian cinema like V Shantaram, Raj Kapoor and Guru Dutt from September 9 to 13 at its art gallery on BP Wadia Road, Basavanagudi. It is on from 10 am to 7 pm.

City's AI traffic signals cut out amber; push riders into red alert

Yellow light should ideally stay for 6 seconds, say experts

AMULLYA SHIVASHANKAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

Bengaluru's AI-enabled traffic signals are skipping the amber light and switching directly from green to red, leaving riders little time to slow down and triggering near-miss collisions.

The issue has been reported from several junctions, including MG Road, Mysuru Road, Jayanagar, Minerva Circle, Majestic, KR Circle and Kamaraj Road.

Traffic experts note that the amber light should ideally stay for six seconds before turning red, giving commuters sufficient time to stop.

Bhaskar Rao, Former Bengaluru Commissioner of Police, said the problem occurs due to manual intervention.

Manual intervention

"If it is AI, why is there manual intervention? When there is higher traffic, the police continuously change from green to red to red to green to get rid of traffic soon and that is when the problem arises," he said.

Some commuters flagged the same issue in Vehicle Actuated Control (VAC) mode.

Ramesh Gowda, an auto driver, said, "Sometimes there is a countdown, but usually there is no intimidation before turning red. There have been instances where I have almost collided with two-wheelers from the other side."

Other drivers said safety mattered more than whether signals were AI or manually operated. The absence of amber has increased cases of signal jumping.

Two-wheeler rider Harshith Jain said he was fined twice for alleged violations. "The red light changed in a blink of an eye. I had crossed the boundary and was in the middle of nowhere. So, I proceeded instead of blocking the oncoming traffic and I got fined," he said.

A senior traffic official admitted it was an issue at some junctions.

However, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Karthik Reddy said it had not been brought to his attention.

AI technology deployed to regulate traffic at Shantala Junction. DH FILE PHOTO

ATCS signal operates in three modes

- **Manual:** Traffic police take over control.
- **VAC:** Computer vision-enabled cameras adjust signal timing based on vehicle flow.
- **ATCS:** Synchronises signals across junctions.

HARSHITH JAIN
Two-wheeler rider

"The red light changed in a blink of an eye. I had crossed the boundary and was in the middle of nowhere. So, I proceeded instead of blocking the oncoming traffic and I got fined.

Authorities have put up a net and issued a warning against dumping waste on an empty plot in Vidyaranyapura. DH PHOTO

BSWML installs green mesh to stop garbage dumping

Move follows residents' demand for action

BENGALURU, DHNS

To curb garbage dumping in empty plots and near storm water drains (SWDs), the Bangalore Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) has started installing green nets as barriers.

The move follows residents' demand for action, especially after the BSWML started levying garbage user fees on empty plots. However, officials clarified the nets have been put up only in spots where dumping is rampant.

"At some empty plots and SWDs, our officials had identified that garbage dumping was rampant. Hence, green nets along with a warning note have been put up in such places," said Karee Gowda, CEO, BSWML.

Some black spots have also been covered with nets. While several residents doubt the idea, others say it is showing results.

"Earlier, we used to see people throwing garbage quickly from two-wheelers. Now, the net acts as a barrier. Many avoid dumping during the day since they have to get down from their vehicles. But at night, it still happens," said Prakash, a shopkeeper in Kodigehalli.

Others argue the measure only shifts dumping elsewhere.

"Garbage vehicles still do not come on time. The workers demand money and sometimes refuse to take the bigger bags. Unless waste collection is streamlined, roadside dumping will continue," said Partha K, a resident of Vidyaranyapura.

BSWML officials, however, maintain that improper waste segregation remains the root problem.

Bike taxi fares climb; commuters voice concern

BENGALURU, DHNS

Commuters in Bengaluru are voicing concerns over rising bike taxi fares since the services returned in August.

Passengers say current fares are at least 30% higher than the pre-ban rates and are no longer cheaper as before.

Uber and Rapido, which now operate 'Bike Direct' services, have declined to share their fare structure. Bike Direct services is a non-profit feature providing free services for bike taxi riders.

Rishabh, a regular user, said, "During the morning peak hours, especially, there's barely a Rs 10 difference between the two services. Earlier, bike taxis were at least Rs 50 cheaper than autos. At the same price, I would obviously choose an auto."

Another commuter from Vidyaranyapura said that her ride to Manyata Tech Park now costs Rs 130, compared to the earlier Rs 90–100.

A *DH* check showed a bike taxi ride from Okalipuram to Sankey Tank at 9 am cost Rs 67–Rs 70, while an auto was Rs 75. In the evening, MG Road to Indiranagar cost Rs 75–Rs 80 by bike taxi, against Rs 95–Rs 100 by auto.

Bike taxi riders, too, admit to the price shift.

"Since there has been a hike in auto fares, it only makes sense to raise bike taxi fares in proportion. Further, with all the uncertainties we have faced, it is only fair that the fares are hiked a little," said Girish, a bike taxi rider.

Every corner of Shivajinagar transforms into an open-air cathedral as the faithful converge for the grand feast of St Mary's Basilica on Monday. DH PHOTO/MS MANJUNATH

CM inaugurates chariot procession at St Mary's Basilica

BENGALURU, DHNS: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah inaugurated the chariot procession of the blessed Mother Mary from St Mary's Basilica in Shivajinagar on Monday.

He reiterated his government's commitment to safeguarding pluralistic culture and eliminating social inequalities through welfare programmes for the poor across all castes and religions.

Speaking at the annual St Mary's Basilica feast, Siddaramaiah recalled Basavanna's teaching that "religion without compassion is meaningless, compassion is the root of religion". He emphasised that religious tolerance and social justice form the core values of the Constitution. "Basavanna's values were also upheld by Mahatma Gandhi and BR Ambedkar. Our government is committed to these principles and ensures equal protection for all," he stated.

Naming metro station

Siddaramaiah assured a positive response to the demands placed by Archbishop Peter Machado — renovation funding for St Mary's Basilica and naming the upcoming Shivajinagar metro station after St Mary.

Govt nets Rs 51 cr in traffic fines under 50% discount scheme

BENGALURU, DHNS: The state government has collected over Rs 51 crore by settling 19 lakh traffic fines under the ongoing 50% discount scheme.

The scheme was announced on August 23 and will continue until September 12. It applies to traffic e-challans only.

The government has collected Rs 51,28,22,400 by settling 18,52,874 traffic fines, H Shashidhara Shetty, District Judge and Member Secretary, Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA), said in a statement on Monday.

On September 13, the KSLSA will hold a National Lok Adalat across the state to deal with traffic e-challans, the statement added.

Kristu Jayanti appoints V-C after becoming deemed varsity

BENGALURU, DHNS: Kristu Jayanti College has appointed its first vice-chancellor after receiving the deemed university status.

Augustine George

Rev Fr Dr Abraham Vettiyankal, Chancellor of the University, appointed Rev Fr Dr Augustine George as the Vice-Chancellor.

Dr George has served Kristu Jayanti College in various capacities, as Head of the Department, Dean, Director of the Law College, Vice-Principal, and Principal.

The Ministry of Education conferred the deemed university status upon Kristu Jayanti under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956.

From just nine students in 1999, the institution has grown to 16,000 students as a deemed-to-be university, according to a news release.

Cabbie bludgeoned to death by friends

BENGALURU, DHNS: A taxi driver with a criminal history was allegedly murdered by his friends during a late-night party in Bapujinagar, West Bengaluru, early on Sunday.

The police believe the incident was the result of a personal dispute.

The police identified the victim as Kaushik, a resident of Byatarayanapura. He was arrested in 2020 in a murder case. He was accused number 8 and was later released on bail. Since then, he had been working as a cab driver.

Investigators said that Kaushik had been invited to a party by a group of friends. The gathering turned violent after an argument broke out. His friends allegedly bludgeoned him with a stone before fleeing.

The Byatarayanapura police sent the body to Victoria Hospital for post-mortem. A manhunt has been launched to trace the suspects.

DyCM's order sends new city commissioners on ground checks

BENGALURU, DHNS: Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar's directive asking commissioners to inspect their jurisdictions before office hours has kept the newly posted IAS officers on their toes.

Rajendra Cholan, Commissioner, Bengaluru Central City Corporation, inspected Indiranagar 100 Feet Road, which was white-topped recently, and directed engineers to involve the local community in maintaining saplings. He later visited the Domlur transfer station and dry waste collection centre, before joining Shanthinagar MLA NA Haris to inspect rajakaluve works at Cambridge Road and a school building construction in Austin Town.

DK Shivakumar

Pommala Sunil Kumar, Commissioner, Bengaluru North City Corporation, inspected the long-pending railway overbridge at Jakkur and directed contractors to complete the work within three months, noting that land acquisition had been completed. He also reviewed nearby road works.

Bengaluru East City Corporation Commissioner Rajendra KV examined records related to citizen grievances and instructed officials to ensure the area was free of flex banners.

Bengaluru South City Corporation Commissioner KN Ramesh reviewed pothole-filling work and the door-to-door waste collection system.

Meanwhile, Ramesh DS, Bengaluru East City Corporation Commissioner, visited Bellandur ward and interacted with staff at the auto tipper mustering centre.

Seniors gear up for sport & culture fest

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens will host cultural and sports competitions to mark World Senior Citizens Day on September 16 at Sambhrama Auditorium, Hosur Road.

Events will include musical chairs, brisk walk and bucket toss, open to men and women aged 60 and above.

Registrations close on September 12. Interested participants can register by 5.30 pm on the same day at the office of the District Disabled Welfare Officer, Reformatory Institutions Complex, Hosur Road.

Call 080-29752324.

Love rivalry: Auto driver pushed before train; dies

BENGALURU, DHNS: A quarrel over a love affair ended in the gruesome murder of a 26-year-old auto driver, who was pushed before a moving train in Mahadevapura late on Sunday.

The police identified the victim as Ismail, a resident of Vijayapura. They arrested the accused, 24-year-old Pratap from Chitradurga, along with another friend, Puneeth.

Investigations revealed that Pratap and Puneeth shared a residence in Bengaluru.

Recently, Puneeth had invited Ismail to the city, where he, too, began working as an auto driver. Tensions grew when Pratap suspected Ismail of frequently speaking with Puneeth's girlfriend, leading to repeated quarrels.

On Sunday night, Pratap and Puneeth were drinking near the railway tracks at Doddanekundi when Ismail arrived.

A fight broke out just as a train approached. The police said that Ismail attempted to push Pratap, but he escaped. Pratap retaliated by shoving Ismail directly onto the tracks, killing him instantly.

In a bid to mislead investigators, Pratap allegedly placed the body on the track and fabricated a story that Ismail had died while attempting to shoot a social media reel.

The Baiyappanahalli railway police have registered a case and arrested Pratap and Puneeth.

IN THE CITY

GENERAL

Indian Horticultural Research Centre: Founder's Day Celebrations; Guests: Sanjay Kumar, YS Patil, G Jagadish, Sanjay Kumar Singh; Hesaraghatta, 10 am.

Rotary Club of Bangalore: Inauguration of Rotary Bangalore Golf Academy: Guest: M Krishnappa; Government High School, Begur; 11 am.

Ganaganga: Singing of 'Bhavdhare' lyrical songs; Inauguration: V Srishananda; Guests: M Nagaprasanna, K Shashikiran Shetty, Chairman: Pampapati Gaddi; Nayana Sabhagan, Kannada Bhavan, JC Road; 5.30 pm.

CULTURAL

Ranga Parampara Trust: 'Sangolli Rayanna' drama performance; Written by Kavita Krishna, directed by Dhanvantri BA, inauguration by HM Revanna, chairman: D Hanumanthaiyya; Kalagrama, Mallathahalli; 6 pm.

RELIGIOUS

Tirumala Tirupati Temples Hindu Dharma Prachar Parishad: Bhajan: Vani and Team, Discourse: Sureshacharya; Sri Rama Mandir, Rajajinagar; 6 pm.

CITY WEATHER

FORECAST

Generally cloudy sky with light rain

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	27.0°C
Minimum	20.0°C
Rainfall	--
Humidity	85%
Sunset (Sept 9)	6:26 pm
Sunrise (Sept 10)	6:09 am
Moonrise	6:56 pm
Moonset	6:26 am

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

SILENT DISEASES GO UNCHECKED

Protein powders, painkillers & poor sleep: Youngsters' kidneys under siege

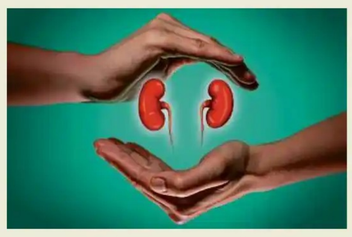
AMULLYA SHIVASHANKAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

City hospitals are seeing a growing number of youngsters with kidney failure, often linked to undiagnosed hypertension, diabetes and obesity.

Doctors say many approach them only in advanced stages, leaving little scope for treatment.

Experts cite two broad causes: lifestyle choices and medical issues. Processed foods, chronic stress, smoking, poor sleep, dehydration, and high protein intake top the lifestyle risks.

"Younger people are developing kidney issues from preventable lifestyle factors. Early signs are often silent, so they may not realise there is a problem until it is advanced," said Dr Nithin J, nephrologist.



Among medical causes, overuse of over-the-counter painkillers, undiagnosed blood pressure, hidden diabetes, and autoimmune diseases stand out.

"To avoid such ailments, a basic profile test once in three months — including blood sugar, creatinine, potassium, sodium and blood pressure — is advisable," said Dr Chandrashekhar, nephrologist.

Red flags

The rising obsession with protein is another red flag.

While around 100 grams a day is considered safe, doctors warn that prolonged intake of more than 120 grams strains the kidneys.

"Excess protein causes hyper-filtration. Protein leakage in urine eventually leads to kidney failure. Excessive keto or red meat diets also damage kidneys," said Dr Vishwanath S, HOD and Consultant, Nephrology and Transplant. He added that damage detected early can often be reversed through dietary changes, but advanced cases are irreversible.

Tobacco use

Tobacco uses further worsens the risk. "Smoking damages blood vessels, reducing blood supply to the kidneys. Tackling lifestyle factors is key to prevention," said Dr Gireesh MS, HOD and Consultant, Nephrology.

For fitness freaks & high-protein consumers

- **Protein powders:** Increase filtration load on kidneys, causing protein leakage. Risk rises if underlying issues exist.
- **Creatine supplements:** Broken down into creatinine, which burdens kidneys and may mask dysfunction when overused.
- **Steroids:** Raise blood pressure, alter hormones and injure kidney tissue, leading to scarring.

(With inputs from Dr Nithin J, Nephrologist)

DH DECCAN HERALD
Please contact for subscription/ service queries
(late receipt, non receipt or irregular supply of newspaper)
: 9008366666
: support@deccanherald.co.in

BJP objects to Christian sub-castes having Hindu names

BENGALURU, DHNS: The BJP on Monday took exception to the presence of several sub-groups under the Christian category, which mentions the names of their respective Hindu castes.

Pointing out that the Backward Classes Commission had made public a list of 1,400 castes and sub-castes, President of the BJP's North District unit S Harish said, "There has been public outcry over including Hindu castes as Christian castes unofficially. Members of several castes have already written to the Backward Classes Commission, while also objecting to the use of Christian tag for their castes. However, the government or the commission hasn't changed its stance. There is a conspiracy to Christianise over 50 Dalit, backward and Savarna castes."

He cited examples of some castes in the list such as, Lingayat Christian, Vokkaliga Christian, Kuruba Christian, Billava Christian, Madiga Christian, Holeya Christian and so on.

Alleging that there was a "conspiracy" to "divide" castes, Harish said it was an attempt to let Christian converts enter the caste list and "snatch" reservation benefits.

Minor girl gives birth; hubby, parents & in-laws booked

YADGIR, DHNS: Days after a 15-year-old girl delivered a baby, the Kodekal police have booked her husband and four others under the provisions of The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act and under the POCSO Act.

Following the complaint lodged by district backward classes welfare officer Sadashiva Malleshi, the police booked the husband, parents of the girl and her parents-in-law.

According to the sources, the girl was forced into the child marriage in June, 2021.The girl's pregnancy and delivery were discovered through the RCH portal, said the child protection unit officer.

Dasara launch: Wadiyar seeks clarification from Banu Mushtaq

MYSURU, DHNS: Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar sought a clarification from International Booker Prize winner Banu Mushtaq on her 2023 comments on Goddess Bhuvaneshwari and the colours of the Kannada flag.

Yaduveer Wadiyar

Speaking to media persons, in Mysuru, on Monday, he said, there is no issue in her being invited to inaugurate Naada Habba Mysuru Dasara if her words do not hurt the sentiments of the people on Kannnda language and Kannada flag.

"We have no problem if she assures that no harm will be done to the honour of Sri Chamundeshwari Devi and the sentiments of Kannadigas," he said.

Priyank Kharge makes fresh bid for court-monitored EVM audit

'K'taka has tech expertise to carry out ethical hackathon'

BENGALURU, DHNS

IT/BT Minister Priyank Kharge has made a fresh proposal to Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar on having the Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) scrutinised under a court-monitored audit through an 'ethical hackathon' hosted by Karnataka.

Priyank Kharge

Priyank's proposal comes just days after the Congress government decided to bring back ballot papers for all local body elections, citing lack of trust in the EVMs.

"At a time when serious questions are being raised about the independence and the integrity of our elections, it becomes even more urgent to adopt proposals that improve transparency. Ignoring them only deepens doubts," Priyank stated.

Priyank pointed out that he had written to the previous CEC Rajiv Kumar, in December 2024, on allowing "an independent technical audit" of the EVMs "from hardware to software, vote recording to counting."

Such an exercise will be backed by the Karnataka government, Priyank said.

"With our strong technology and R&D ecosystem, I had proposed that Karnataka is well placed to carry out such a transparent exercise under judicial and industry oversight to rigorously test the EVM architecture and address public perception issues around electoral integrity," Priyank stated. "My intent has always been to address concerns and strengthen public faith in the system," he added.

Priyank's proposal comes just days after the Congress government decided to bring back ballot papers for all local body elections, citing lack of trust in the EVMs. DH FILE PHOTO

In his December 2024 letter to Rajiv Kumar, Priyank recalled that the Election Commission had challenged political parties in 2017 to test EVMs. "...it is important to note that political parties lack the technical expertise to participate effectively," he stated. "For this exercise to have real value, it must be extended to research institutions like the IISc, IIT, IIIT etc along with reputed private technology R&D players who possess the necessary technical prowess and resources to meaningfully test the machines," he wrote.

Karnataka, Priyank said, is the world's 4th largest technology ecosystem and home to R&D centres of leading global companies. "We're backed by some of the premier academic institutions and are uniquely equipped to lead this effort," he stated. "With our unmatched technical expertise and innovation ecosystem, Government of Karnataka is willing to take on this responsibility of conducting an ethical hackathon for your esteemed institution," he stated.

Will govt take ordinance route?

The state government has started drafting laws to enable the reintroduction of ballot papers for upcoming local body polls. The Bills being drafted will also give the State Election Commission (SEC) the power to prepare the electoral rolls. The government may promulgate an ordinance to give effect to these Bills. This may come up during the Cabinet meeting scheduled on September 11.

CM wants dead, ineligible beneficiaries removed from 'guarantee' schemes

BENGALURU, DHNS: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday directed authorities to revise the list of beneficiaries under the 'guarantee' schemes by removing the dead and those who are ineligible.

Siddaramaiah said this at a meeting where he reviewed the progress of the 'guarantee' schemes on which the government has spent Rs 97,813 crore.

The CM said dead beneficiaries must be listed every month at the panchayat level and the information must be shared with banks. Action must be taken to add and remove beneficiaries at the panchayat level, he said.

Confusion surrounding those who file GST returns claiming Gruha Lakshmi benefits must be addressed, Siddaramaiah told officials.

Ineligible BPL card holders must be identified and removed at the panchayat level. Guidelines in this regard must be strictly followed, Siddaramaiah said. Under the Anna Bhagya scheme, Siddaramaiah said action must be taken to ensure that rice does not get sold in the black market.

The government will also examine the idea of giving beneficiaries grains other than rice depending upon the region.

Since 2023, the government has spent Rs 50,005 crore on the Gruha Lakshmi scheme that has 1.24 crore beneficiaries. Under Gruha Jyoti, there are 1.64 crore beneficiaries costing Rs 18,139 crore. The Yuva Nidhi programme has 2.55 lakh beneficiaries at Rs 623 crore. The Shakti scheme has been used by women 544 crore times at a cost of Rs 13,903 crore. Under Anna Bhagya, the government has incurred Rs 11,821.17 crore.

Intelligence dept staff collect audit report of Odanadi NGO

MYSURU, DHNS: Even as the names of Mysuru-based NGO Odanadi and one of its Director Stanley were heard regarding the Dharmasthala case, the Police have collected the audit report of the organisation on Monday.

Officials said, Karnataka State Intelligence department staff visited the Odanadi Seva Samsthe and collected copies of the organisation's audit reports for the past three years.

Odanadi Director Parashuram said, "Two officials came to our office. As per the instructions of the Inspector General of Intelligence, they collected the audit reports. They also inquired about the woman from Mandya in connection with the Dharmasthala case. We have provided the information they asked for".

"A few days ago, news was spread that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) had conducted a raid on our office. Now, the Intelligence department officials came without even serving a notice. Our transactions are transparent, and we welcome any kind of investigation," he said.

It can be recalled that Odanadi Director Stanley had lodged a complaint with the Police in Mysuru against Udupi-based journalist and activist Vasanth Giliyar on September 5, regarding the Dharmasthala issue.

Stanley filed a complaint against Giliyar at Vijayanagar police station in the city alleging that Giliyar was creating unrest between faiths and is engaged in personal character assassination. The Police had filed an FIR on the basis of the complaint.

In the complaint, Stanley has stated, "A social movement is underway across Karnataka state, demanding justice for the kidnapping, rape, and murder of a girl named Soujanya in Dharmasthala village. Odanadi organisation, which works for women's rights, is holding a protest within the law. However, Giliyar has identified me as a Christian and is alleging that I have come to destroy the Hindu religion and its temples, on social media."

Cong govt responsible for Maddur communal clash: Kumaraswamy

MYSURU, DHNS: Union Minister and Mandya MP H D Kumaraswamy alleged that the Congress government in Karnataka was responsible for the communal clash in Maddur town of the district on Sunday and Monday.

In a press release, issued from New Delhi, Kumaraswamy accused the government of acting in a way that displeased the Hindu community.

Kumaraswamy alleged that the stone-pelting incident during the Ganapati procession in Maddur was a result of the Congress party's poor governance and conduct in Karnataka. "The Congress government is responsible for such a major, terrible incident happening in Mandya district, known for its peace and tranquility. Such incidents never happened in this district earlier. In Nagamangala town, some evil forces indulged in a riot last year. Now, in Maddur, similar forces have conspired to disrupt peace," he alleged.

Kumaraswamy

The appeasement politics of the Congress has created such a bad situation across Karnataka, he said. "Earlier, such incidents were rare, in one or two districts. After the Congress government came to power, they are happening unabated in all parts of every district... All this is happening because of appeasement politics," the union minister said.

'Minor' incident, suspects nabbed: HM

BENGALURU, DHNS: Home Minister G Parameshwara on Monday confirmed that the suspects behind the stone-throwing incident during the Ganesha idol procession in Maddur, Mandya district, had been apprehended.

Speaking to reporters in the city, he said such "minor" incidents were natural during festivals.

His statement came in response to criticism from the Opposition regarding the law and order situation in the region. Parameshwara stated that the Opposition was creating "unnecessary" noise over the matter.

He emphasised that the government had taken strict precautions for the Ganesh festival. "Senior police officers were deployed to ensure the security of the festival and prevent any mishaps or disasters from occurring," he said.

Despite these measures, he conceded that minor incidents are a part of such public gatherings. He reiterated that the situation was under control and the necessary legal action had been taken.

Prima facie pre-planned: Min

Addressing a press meet in Mandya, Minister N Chaluvarayaswamy claimed that the Maddur violence prima facie appears like a pre-planned act.

Bengaluru airport receives another hoax bomb threat

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Bengaluru police have registered a case against an unknown person for sending an email about a bomb being placed inside Terminal 2 of the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA).

The threat email was received on September 6 and was later declared a hoax following a search operation.

The police registered an FIR on September 7 following a complaint by Rubin Raj, Deputy Terminal Manager at T2, who received the email on September 6. The email stated that four RDX-based Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) had been placed inside the washrooms of T2.

The sender of the email has been identified as thozhar_leelavathy@outlook.com. The sender claimed to be a member of an obscure organisation called the Islamic Jihad Committee, Coimbatore, but began the email with 'Ganapati Baba Mohriya' (sic).

The sender shared a cryptic message, stating, "Decode Before Evacuating: Nivetha Pethuraj Weds Udhayandihi", and also demanded that the charges against two people—Jaffar Sadiq and Kiruthiga Udhayanidhi—be dropped immediately.

The sender has been booked under section 125 (rash or negligent act that endangers human life or the personal safety of others), 353(1) (statements that cause public mischief), and 351(4) (criminal intimidation through anonymous or concealed communication) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

Hoax bomb threats have become a common occurrence at the Bengaluru airport, according to an airport source. "However, despite how common they are, a strict protocol is followed for each threat. But a case is not always registered," he said.

Action as per law, be it Hindu or Muslim: CM on Maddur

'21 held for violence, further action based on district minister's report'

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday said his government will take action as per law against those responsible for violence during a Ganesha idol procession at Maddur in Mandya.

"Whoever was wrong - Hindu or Muslim - action will be take against them as per law," Siddaramaiah said at a news conference.

The police have arrested 21 persons in connection with violence during the procession in front of a mosque on Sunday, Siddaramaiah said.

"There was no untoward incident anywhere, except in Maddur," Siddaramaiah said.

Further action will be initiated based on a report submitted by Agriculture Minister N Chaluvarayaswamy, the minister in charge of Mandya, the CM said. Siddaramaiah also defended the police, who resorted to lathicharge to manage the situation.

"The crowd did not disperse even after being told," he said. "The information I have is that the police haven't done anything wrong. They followed the law," he said. "If the police, BJP, JD(S) or Congress have done wrong, it's wrong. Be it a Hindu or Muslim, a wrong is a wrong," he added.

Chaluvarayaswamy accused the BJP of trying to build its base in the Vokkaliga-dominated Mandya using "communal" issues. "Unnecessary provocation in the form of protests mustn't happen," he said.

Siddaramaiah, too, slammed the BJP. "They're experts in provocation," he said.

Hundus unsafe: Ashoka

Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka charged that "Hindus are no longer safe while celebrating their festivals" in Congress-ruled Karnataka.

"The communal clash during Ganesh Visarjan in Maddur, Mandya, is not an accident - it is the outcome of Congress' dangerous appeasement politics under Siddaramaiah and his deputy D K Shivakumar. Miscreants attack Hindus with impunity. Police, instead of protecting, are ordered to lathi-charge peaceful Hindus. Intelligence, law and order completely collapsed. This government has reduced Hindus to second-class citizens in their own land," Ashoka said.

Ashoka urged the CM to "act immediately or step aside if (you) cannot protect innocent Hindus."

Police wield lathis to disburse agitators during a protest march in Maddur, Mandya district, on Monday. DH PHOTO

Contractors meet Shivakumar, seek bill clearance

8 departments have arrears of Rs 32k cr, says association

BENGALURU, DHNS

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar is said to have assured the state contractors' association on Monday that arrears up to Rs 2,500 to Rs 3,000 crore for projects related to his Irrigation Department will be cleared before the Dasara festival.

Speaking to *DH* after meeting the DCM, the association's president Manjunath explained that overall Rs 32,000 crore arrears had to be cleared from eight departments, adding that Rs 12,000 crore in that were pending from the Irrigation Department.

Four state-run irrigation firms are functioning under the Irrigation Department - Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Limited (CNNL), Karnataka Neeravari Nigama Limited (KNNL), Krishna Bhagya Jala Nigama Limited (KBJNL) and Visvesvaraya Jala Nigama Limited (VJNL).

According to Manjunath, there are roughly 2,000 persons who have taken loans up to Rs 50 lakh under each board. "The DCM assured that these bills (roughly around 8,000), amounting to around Rs 1,000 - Rs 1,500 crore, will be cleared. He also noted that for bills costing Rs 1, 2 or 3 crore, 25% amount will be provided now. Overall, we may get Rs 2,500-3,000 before Dasara."

Shivakumar is also said to have agreed to consider seniority while providing contracts. He directed the MDs of the four boards to follow the same, Manjunath added.

Contractors had also requested the DCM to pay the Fixed Security Deposits (FSDs) that must be returned after the projects, but contractors have claimed that these FSDs haven't been returned in the last 7-8 years. Shivakumar is said to have agreed to pay these deposits too.

HC dismisses insurance company's appeal over bizarre road accident leading to death

AMBARISH B
BENGALURU, DHNS

The High Court of Karnataka has said that if an insurance policy is issued only for the tractor and not the trailer, it cannot be grounds to exonerate the insurance company.

Justice Hanchate Sanjeevkumar said this while dismissing the appeal filed by an insurance company.

The appeal was pertaining to a bizarre fatal accident that occurred on October 9, 2010, in which Malatesh Didagur, a resident of Hosahalli village, Haveri district, died after an electricity pole fell on him.

The insurance company challenged the March 7, 2012, order of the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal at Haveri.

Malatesh, who worked as a labourer for L&T Ltd, was at Halemalalikoppa Road at Shivamogga to fix an electrical board. L&T had received the contract from the Mangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (MESCOM).

When Didagur was working on the erection of the electricity pole, a tractor and trailer came from the Ram Nagar side and the trailer's hook stuck to the electric wire that was to be fixed to the pole. The trailer dragged the wire. Due to this impact, the electric pole broke and fell on Malatesh's head. He sustained grievous injuries and succumbed on the spot.

Malatesh's family members moved the tribunal, which fastened the liability on the insurer of the tractor and awarded a compensation of Rs 5.15 lakh with interest at 6% per annum.

Preferring an appeal, the insurance company argued that the death was not due to a motor vehicle accident. It stated that the tractor and trailer were not at fault as the tractor did not strike the deceased, but he died under circumstances where the wire and electric pole fell on him.

Justice Sanjeevkumar noted that although the tractor and trailer did not directly strike the deceased, the circumstances, specifically the rash and negligent driving, led to the accident.

The court said that when a trailer was attached to a tractor, the whole component of both tractor and trailer would become a motor vehicle as per the definitions under sections 2(28), 2(44) and 2(46) of the Motor Vehicles Act.

"When the tractor and trailer attached and both are moving, even if, tractor alone is insured and the trailer is not insured, but the insurer of tractor is liable and responsible to pay compensation. If the trailer is not attached with a tractor, then the submission of the learned counsel for the appellant/insurance company could have been accepted. But, in the present case, the trailer is attached with the tractor and because the tractor is pulling the trailer; therefore, both tractor and trailer were in a moving condition becoming a whole component of the motor vehicle," the court said.

More leads under active scrutiny of D'sthala SIT

UDUPI, DHNS: The Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Monday continued to question key individuals, while recording statements and verifying critical documents related to the alleged Dharmasthala mass burial case.

The SIT officials recorded the statements of Jayanth, Vittal Gowda, Kerala-based Youtuber Munaf, Girish Mattannavar and Youtuber Abhishek as part of the inquiry. The SIT sources confirmed that no major breakthrough was achieved during the day's proceedings. The complainant-witness, Chinnaiah, who was remanded in judicial custody, continued to remain a point of discussion in the case.

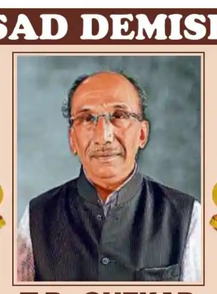
The ongoing investigation is spread across many angles, with the SIT exploring multiple leads to unearth the truth. SIT sources confirmed no exhumation had been carried out in recent days, as had been reported in a section of press.

"More individuals are likely to be summoned in coming days," a senior SIT officer told *DH*. One of the major challenges faced by SIT at this stage has been the circulation of fake news and unverified speculations across various forms of media. SIT officials said that the team was not under any external pressure to influence the direction of the probe.

Complaint lodged

Activist Snehamayi Krishna on Monday submitted a 12-page complaint to Dakshina Kannada Superintendent of Police accusing Sowjanya's maternal uncle, Vittal Gowda, of raping and murdering Sowjanya.

DH DECCAN HERALD
Obituaries & Remembrance Advertisements
Log on to : https://homages.deccanherald.com
or
Scan QR code to access booking form

SAD DEMISE

T.R. SHEKAR
On 29th August 2025
Condolences from family members

REMEMBRANCE

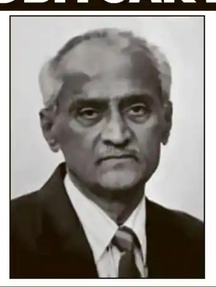
P.JAMBAI AMMAL
DOD: 09-09-2007
"you will always be remembered for your caring and affection"
your family members
Children, Grand Children & Great Grand Children.

18th ANNIVERSARY
IN LOVING MEMORY OF

OTTY MATHIAS
Died: 09-09-2007
YOU LIVE IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER
CHILDREN,
GRAND CHILDREN

VAIKUNTA SAMARADHANE

A. HARSHAVARDHANA
DOB:12/05/1935 DOD: 30/08/2025
Shanti Karya on 9th September at No.22, Moyenville, Moyenville Road Langford Town, Bangalore-560025
IN REVERENCE & REMEMBRANCE:
Family Members, Relatives & Friends

OBITUARY

PROF. K H CHANNAPPA
Retd. HOD Physics(Dept), Bangalore University
Expired on 08-09-2025
Cremation on 09-09-2025 @ 11.30 am, Lingayat Rudra Bhoomi, Chamarajapet, Bangalore
Inserted by:
Dinesh : 9845707123, 9844135386

SAD DEMISE

SRI. S.R. ASWATHNARAYAN
(S/o Late Sri. S.H. Ramasa)
Born: 04-04-1942 | Died: 08-09-2025
We regret to inform that he has left us to heavenly abode on 08-09-2025. Cremation will be held at Chamarajpet Burial Grounds, (Behind TR Mills) @ 2 pm today 09-09-2025. We pray God to rest his soul in peace.
Deeply mourned by:
Wife, Sons, Daughter, Family Members, Relatives & Friends

Power tariff: Bescom wants up to Re 1 hike for industries

Plea before KERC seeks 95-paise cut for IP set

SNEHA RAMESH
BENGALURU, DHNS

Bescom has petitioned the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) to cut power supply charges for agricultural pumpsets by 95 paisa per unit and raise them for industrial and commercial establishments by 10 paise to Re 1 per unit to offset revenue shortfalls.

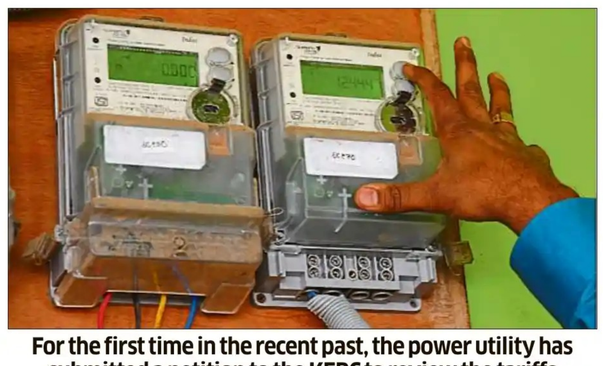
For the first time in the recent past, the power utility has submitted a petition to the KERC to review the tariffs announced in March 2025.

In a detailed submission before the KERC, Bescom noted that the commission had failed to consider the state government's budget allocation for subsidy to irrigation pumpsets while determining the power charges for IP sets.

During the March revision, the KERC raised the power supply charges for IP sets by nearly Rs 1.5 and slashed them for industries and commercial establishments by 30 paise to Rs 3 per unit.

At the increased rate, the expenditure on agricultural pumpsets would go up to Rs 20,640 crore while the government had only earmarked Rs 16,021 crore.

"If the commission's tariff order is implemented for LT-4(a) category (agricultural pumpsets), ESCOMs cannot meet this shortfall in revenue as the same is not provided in the budget. Bescom can neither recover the shortfall from the government nor from consumers. Therefore, ESCOMs have filed a petition for modification," Bescom's petition reads.


For the first time in the recent past, the power utility has submitted a petition to the KERC to review the tariffs announced in March 2025. DH FILE PHOTO

Existing Vs proposed charges

Category of consumers	Tariff for 2024-25 (In Rs per unit)	Tariff announced for 2025-26 in March, 2025 (In Rs per unit)	Proposed revision (In Rs per unit)
Agricultural pump sets	6.81	8.30	7.35
Commercial (LT)	8.00	7.00	7.10
Industry (LT)	6.10	4.50	5.2
Industry (HT)	6.9	6.6	6.7
Commercial (HT)	8	5.95	6.9

Bescom also noted that the government agreed to release a subsidy of Rs 2,362.47 crore, in addition to Rs 16,021 crore announced in the budget, to mitigate the overall shortfall in revenue. However, even then, there will still be a gap and Bescom has suggested that Rs 1,214.12 crore can be collected by raising the charges for industrial and commercial consumers.

Another Rs 1148.35 crore could be obtained through miscellaneous sources such as interest on arrears, cross subsidy surcharge, FPPCA, and wheeling charges.

Industrialists called the Bescom move "unfair" and vowed to submit objections before the KERC.

"The KERC passed the tariff order in March after studying all the submissions made by ESCOMs. It is not right to now ask for a revision. The increase in tariff for industries will burden industries already suffering owing to other price hikes. We will raise objections against this proposal," said B P Shashidhar, Chairman (Energy Committee), Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI).

Kharge's jibe at distressed farmer draws Opposition's ire

It's a proof of traditional arrogance: HDK

NEW DELHI/ KALABURAGI, DHNS

Slamming Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge over a viral video purportedly showing his interaction with a distressed farmer in Kalaburagi, Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H D Kumaraswamy on Monday said the top Congress leader's conduct is proof of the traditional arrogance.

The clip, which has been circulated widely on social media, captures Kharge's conversation with a farmer whose crops were damaged by recent floods in the region.

In the video, Kharge is seen accusing the farmer of seeking publicity and questioning him how many acres did he sow. When the farmer replies that he has grown crops in four acres, Kharge retorts "I have also grown crops in 40 acres and mine has been damaged worse than you. I am well aware of the crop loss. This is like the saying that one who has delivered three kids, expressing her struggle before a person who delivered six kids".

Kharge also asked the farmer to approach Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah for the compensation of crop loss.

Terming the Kharge's reaction as an insult to the distressed farmers, BJP state president B Y Vijayendra said that this shows carelessness of Kharge towards the farmers. In the post on 'X', the BJP leader said that Kharge's attitude has reduced his dignity of a long political experience and seniority.

"Congress never did anything to lift the farmers out of their difficult situation after Independence. The party has shed crocodile tears over the poor farmers. The way AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge behaved on Sunday has provided evidence to it", he stated.

JD(S) has also accused Kharge of being arrogant and charged that Congress leaders care about the farmers only in their speeches. "DCM D K Shivakumar had earlier threatened the farmers protesting in Ramanagara like a rowdy. Now, AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge has shown his arrogant attitude towards the poor farmer who has lost his crop", the party said.

Criticising the Congress leader on 'X', Kumaraswamy said, "Respected Mallikarjun Kharge avare, I was deeply disappointed by your behaviour towards the farmers. From a senior leader, I certainly did not expect such conduct. If a farmer in distress cannot approach you and share his pain, then who else should he turn to? You are the Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha and the President of the AICC. Yet, you completely forgot these responsibilities while speaking!"

The JD (S) leader added, "You too may be a toor dal farmer, but how can there be any comparison between a person like you cultivating 40 acres and a poor farmer cultivating just one or two acres? You have the capacity to bear the loss. Shouldn't the farmer be given that same strength?"

"Kharge avare, what was the need to say such words? A senior leader should set an example. Instead, you insulted the farmer, and along with him, you insulted his mother! This is unacceptable. At the very least, you could have consoled him and wiped away his tears."

Kumaraswamy said, "Your conduct is proof of the traditional arrogance and ego of the @INCIndia party. #CongressFailsKarnataka @kharge."

DH Classifieds
More value, more impact
email: classifieds@deccanherald.co.in
For your Classified Advertisements, Contact:
080 - 45557160 /161/ 162/ 163/ 164/
98451 14560 / 97318 10277/ 9886213331

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the public, that my client Mr. Lokesh B. N. S/o D. Nagarajaiah, residing at: Kannaguni village, N. M. Pura Post, Yediyur Hobli, Kunigal Taluk, Tumkur District, has entered an agreement dated 28.08.2025 to purchase the Schedule Property mentioned below from legal heirs of the late K. Ashwath, i.e., 1) A. Sharadrani, 2) Ramya Ashwath, 3) Divya Ashwath, all are resididing No. 615/39, 1st Floor, 2nd Main Road, Raghavendra Colony, Bilekalli, Bannerghatta Main Road, Bangalore 560 076. At the time of execution of the agreement, the above-mentioned sellers stated that, the Sale Deed dated 13.07.1993 in respect of the schedule property has been lost and that a notice was given in the daily newspaper on 29.05.2025. If any Person/s, or institution have any right, interest upon the Schedule Property and if there is any debt, loss, collateral if any upon the Schedule Property or any other obligations, the undersigned attorneys should be contacted at their offices with the appropriate documents within 15 days of this publication. If no objection is received within the stipulated days, it will be considered as no objection from anyone. My clients are committed to conducting further transactions in relation to the purchase of the Schedule property. Objections within the stipulated period or those coming later will not be considered.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of Property bearing Site No.98, carved out of Sy.No.6/1, 30, 32 and others survey numbers of Arehalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Layout formed by the The Accountant General Office Co-operative Housing Society Limited. Bangalore, presently within the limits of existing BBMP Ward No.183 (Uttarahalli) with E-PID No. 7880760851, measuring 60 feet on the East. 60 feet on the west, 40 feet on the north and 40.06 feet on the south sides, bounded on: East by Road, West by: Site No.99. North: Road, and South: Site No. 97.
H.R. Sadanand, Advocate, No.21/2, 1st Main Road, Gandi Nagar, Bengaluru-560 009. Mobile No.9845698508. Email: rashmiksada@gmail.com
Place: Bengaluru Date: 08.09.2025

CAUTION NOTICE
Readers are advised to make appropriate thorough enquiries before acting upon any advertisement. This newspaper does not vouch or subscribe to the claims and representations made by advertisers.
Advertisement Manager
The Printers (Mysore) Pvt. Ltd.
Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given that, my client intends to transact with the lands situated in Thippapura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, measuring 2 acres 2 guntas along with 9 guntas 'B' kharabh in all totally measuring 2 acres 11 guntas from its respective owners, which is more fully described in the Schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as the "Schedule Property".
Any person having any subsisting claim, right, title or interest, in respect of the Schedule Property or any part thereof, in any manner including by way of easement, beneficial interest or pre-emption or under any agreement or other disposition or under any suit or award passed by any Court or Authority, arbitrator, lis-pendens, power of attorney, bequest, FSI, development rights, partnership, family arrangement or settlement or otherwise encumbrance howsoever ("Claim"), are hereby requested to respond with documentary proof to the undersigned within 15 (Fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, it shall be presumed that no such Claim exists and if it existed, the claimant has relinquished such Claim and/or waived their right to exercise such Claim.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Sy No	Owner	Extent Acre	Gunta	Kharabh "A"	Kharabh "B"	East By	West By	North By	South By
153	Mr Atiq Ahmed son of Mr Fayaz Ahmed	0	21	0	2	Land belonging to Mr Hanumanna	Land belonging to Mr Venkatashamappa	Land belonging to Mr Muniyamma	Land belonging to Mr Chikka Eerappa
154	Mr Atiq Ahmed son of Mr Fayaz Ahmed	0	21	0	2	Land belonging to Mr Hanumaiah	Land belonging to Mr Rangadhamaiah	Land belonging to Mr Atiq Ahmed	Land belonging to Mr Pratham and others
155	Mr Rafiq Ahmed son of Mr Fayaz Ahmed	0	20	0	2	Land belonging to Mr Thimmaiah	Land belonging to Mr Mugappa	Land belonging to Mr Atiq Ahmed	Land belonging to Mr Poojappa
156	Mr Atiq Ahmed son of Mr Fayaz Ahmed	0	20	0	3	Land belonging to Mr Atiq Ahmed	Land belonging to Mr Fayaz Ahmed	Land belonging to Mr Rafiq Ahmed	Land belonging to Mr Poojappa

Pavithra Thammaiah,
Khaitan & Co LLP
Embassy Quest, 3rd Floor, 45/1, Magrath Road, Bengaluru-560 025
T: +91 80 43397000
Date:09-09-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF ADDRESS OF BRANCH OFFICE AND SHIFTING AT NEW ADDRESS
ORIX Leasing & Financial Services India Limited
Registered Office: Plot No.94, Marol Co-operative Industrial Estate, Andheri-Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400059
Website: www.orixindia.com; Tel:- 022-67070100
With reference to the captioned subject, the company closed its Branch Office situated at #1, Bandappa Colony, New Byappanahalli extn, Opposite Montfort College, old madras Road Indiranagar effective 10th Dec, 2025 and shifted at Maruthi Infotech Center, 540, 2nd Floor, Wing-B, 100 ft Road, Krishna Reddy Layout, Amarjyoti Layout, Domlur, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560071.
All accounts currently maintained at this branch will be transferred to our new office address as mentioned above. In case of any queries, the customers can contact the Company at our Bangalore branch office or at our registered office or can reach our customer care representatives at +91 9877333444 / customercareorixindia.com.

BUSINESS
Business Offers
Business to Business
Business
COLLATERALS/ JOINT VENTURES/ Finance for big Projects/ Take Overs/ Buying/ Selling/ Any Other Good Projects. Vamshadhara Projects And Services. Dr.Swamy Naidu:- 9342247637.
Finance
MSME LOANS Available for Any Startup Companies,Any Existing Companies NOTE:Also one Approved Loan Available Contact-7204995189

HEALTH SPECIAL
HEAR MORE, PAY LESS
AFFORDABLE HEARING AIDS
OREVA RS
CHAIN OF HEARING CLINICS
www.orevarehab.com
• Made in Europe
• Built-in AI
• Exchange Offer
• Premium Rechargeable Hearing Aids

₹2,50,000 ₹49,999
₹3,65,000 ₹59,999
*T&C Apply
PRICES ARE PER UNIT
AVAILABLE IN BENGALURU & KARNATAKA.
+91 63663 62211
PRODUCT EXCLUSIVELY AVAILABLE AT OREVA
HOME VISIT AVAILABLE. CONTACT NOW!
25+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
2.5 LAKH HAPPY COSTUMERS

PERSONAL
Change of Name
I, MADHURI CHANDRAMOULI SASTRI, W/o Shrinivas Joshi, have changed my name to MADHURI JOSHI, vide affidavit dated on 06.09.2025 before Notary S.N. Madhu, Bangalore.
CHANGE OF NAME
I, Prathima Chethan Raj, D/o T. Srinivas, aged 47yrs, residing at # 19, Serene Groove Apts., G-01, 2nd Main Road, Near BSNL Office Kodihalli, Bengaluru -560008, have changed my name to PRATHIMA SRINIVAS vide affidavit dated 17.03.2025 before notary R. Chandrashekar, Bengaluru. Henceforth I shall be called PRATHIMA SRINIVAS only
I, DEVARAJEGOWDA S R, S/o. Rangegowda, have changed my name to S R DEVARAJ GOWDA vide affidavit dated 08/09/2025 before notary M. Rajendra, Bangalore.
CHANGE OF NAME
I, Vijay Chethan Raj, S/o H.R. Tegnoor, aged 47yrs, residing at # 19, Serene Groove Apts., G-01, 2nd Main Road, Near BSNL Office Kodihalli, Bengaluru -560008, have changed my name to CHETAN H S vide affidavit dated 17.03.2025 before notary R. Chandrashekar, Bengaluru. Henceforth I shall be called CHETAN H S only
I, KASTURI SHANMUGAM, W/o. R. Shanmugam, have changed my name to S.KASTHURI vide affidavit dated 08/09/2025 before notary M. Rajendra, Bangalore.

Team Black Panthers from Maragodu, Kodagu, aced the women's throwball competition at Isha Gramotsavam.

Isha Gramotsavam: B'luru, Kodagu mofussil teams win Karnataka regional finals

BENGALURU, DHNS: Team Ibbani won the men's volleyball and Team Black Panthers the women's throwball events at the Karnataka regional finals of rural sports festival Isha Gramotsavam on Sunday.

Team Ibbani from Heggadihalli, Bengaluru Rural, defeated Team Appu Boys from Marasanahalli panchayat, Chikkaballapur Rural, to emerge as regional champions.

In women's throwball, Team Black Panthers from Maragodu, Kodagu, overcame Team Shasthara Padumale (Kudla Strikers), from Badagannuru, Dakshina Kannada, to clinch the regional title.

Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev, former Indian cricketer Robin Uthappa and South Indian actress Srinidhi Shetty attended the event held at Sadhguru Sannidhi in Chikkaballapur.

The event featured men's volleyball and women's throwball competitions.

Eighteen men's volleyball teams from nine districts and 16 women's throwball teams from eight districts competed for their place in the grand finale to be held at Adiyogi, Isha Yoga Center, Coimbatore.

Launched by Sadhguru in 2004, Isha Gramotsavam was envisioned to rekindle the spirit of rural India. The festival helps rural communities break free from addictions, rise above caste, creed and religious divisions, and actively supports women's participation in community life. Unlike professional tournaments, Gramotsavam provides rural citizens with a platform to play, compete, and celebrate the unifying power of sports and culture, according to a press release.

VIT Chennai holds 13th convocation

Minister Dr Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, along with senior officials of VIT Chennai, presents a degree certificate to a student at the convocation on Saturday.

The 13th convocation of Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), Chennai, was held on Saturday. Dr Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services, Government of Tamil Nadu, as the chief guest, presented medals and degree certificates to rank holders and PhD scholars. Shelley Salehin, Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Deputy High Commission, Chennai, was the guest of honour. VIT's Founder and Chancellor Dr G Viswanathan presided while Vice Presidents Sankar Viswanathan and Dr G V Selvam attended.

Dr Palanivel Thiaga Rajan stressed on the importance of universal access to education for everyone across genders, communities and religions. He appealed to the youth to follow their own vision and path. He said education should make people have a softer view of society. The concept of offering humanities, social sciences and law in technical institutions was important, he added.

"For over a Century, we have seen in Tamil Nadu that education is the key to good societal outcomes. The notions of social justice and equity start with equal access to education, and in this sense, I commend Dr G Viswanathan for his vision many decades ago, and how he has changed the face of education in Tamil Nadu and other parts of the country," the minister remarked.

Shelley Salehin said character and talent were the two most important virtues for the youth. A convocation is a celebration for parents and faculty too, who support the students through their education.

Dr Viswanathan said many young people having access to quality higher education was primarily due to the investment their parents made. He appealed to the Centre and State governments to invest more in education, particularly higher education.

As many as 6,581 undergraduate, post-graduate and research scholars received degrees.

VIT's Vice Chancellor Dr V S Kanchana Bhaaskaran, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Chennai) Dr T Thyagarajan, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Vellore) Dr Partha Sharathi Mallick, and Registrar Dr T Jayabarathi also attended the convocation.

DH VIT Chennai

Curated by DH Brandspot

Accept Aadhaar as 12th valid document for SIR: SC tells EC

Aadhaar, from Page 1

Countering this, Dwivedi submitted that the petitioners actually wanted Aadhaar to be considered as a proof of citizenship and warned against "misuse". He also asserted that the EC has the power to decide whether the applicant is a citizen.

He further said the EC has issued public advertisements in the media to give information to the voters about the Supreme Court's direction for the acceptance of Aadhaar.

Dwivedi argued that Aadhaar does not have the same status as a passport or a land document, or a birth certificate.

The bench, however, observed that Aadhaar is not alien to the RP Act.

Dwivedi said 99.6% of 7.24 crore voters have submitted documents which the EC asked for.

"So it is not a case that these 11 documents are not there. None of the political parties or petitioners has been able to point out that a large number of people have been excluded," he said.

To this, the bench said: "We have already clarified to include Aadhaar."

Advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, who has sought SIR in other states like Assam and West Bengal, submitted that Aadhaar cannot be accepted if the person does not have any other 11 documents.

The court, however, pointed out that the RP Act itself mentioned Aadhaar.

OUTREACH ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEERS FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT, BENGALURU

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Sealed tenders are invited under a Two-Bid System (Technical & Financial) from eligible suppliers for the **supply of 8000 grey cotton-picking bags, size 45 cm (L) × 60 cm (W) with a base width of 4 cm.** For detailed tender notification, eligibility criteria, and submission guidelines, please visit: **www.outreachindia.org**

Last date for submission: **24.09.2025**

Executive Director
Contact No.: 94490 77530

The Citizen Welfare HBCS Ltd.
No. 218/K.30, Narayana Shastri Road, Mysore - 570 024

No: CWHBCS/Notice/01/2025-26 **Dated 03-09-2025**

Invitation letter for the Annual General Body Meeting for the year 2024-25

The Board of Directors have decided to hold the Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) of the society for the year 2024-25 on **20th September 2025 Saturday, at 11:00 AM, at Hoysala Karnataka Sangha (R), No. 888, Narayana Shastri Road, Mysore-570004,** under the chairmanship of Shri B.S. Nijagunaradhya, President of the society. All members are requested to arrive on time and participate and make the meeting successful. A detailed invitation letter has already been sent to all members by post. Members who have not received the invitation letter are requested to treat this as the official invitation and attend the meeting.

On behalf of the Board of Directors
Sd/- Secretary

Stone pelting: Maddur bandh today; 21 held

Maddur, from Page 1

The protestors raised slogans against the state government, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and the police.

A few members removed green flags belonging to Muslims and fixed the saffron bhagawadwaja. The police took a youth who brandished an iron rod at a commercial complex during the protest march into custody.

The situation turned tense when the procession reached the mosque near Kemmannu Nale Circle, where the protesters torched tyres to vent their ire. They halted on the spot for around half an hour though the police urged the procession to move on.

When a few people pelted the mosque with stones, the police resorted to mild caning to disperse the crowd. A few women complained that the police caned them.

The procession passed through Pete Beedhi and culminated near the IB Circle. The protesters also blocked the Bengaluru-Mysuru highway for a while, affecting vehicular movement.

Former MP Pratap Simha, former minister D C Thammanna, district BJP president Dr Indresh, BJP leaders S P Swamy and Siddaramaiah took part in the procession and condemned the state government and the police for the incident

All shops and business establishments remained closed on Monday as a precaution. Thousands of members of Hindu outfits tried to lay siege to the taluk office with demands for action against the police for the lathi-charge and for shutting the mosque from where the stone-throwing was reported.

Deputy commissioner Kumara and SP Mallikarjuna Baladandi camped in the town and held meetings with leaders of Hindu outfits, urging them to withdraw the protest.

Police personnel led by IGP Boralingaiah and SP took out a flag march in the town.

Six wild cat species recorded ...

Wild cat, from Page 1

The record of Pallas's cat, while slightly lower than the absolute global maximum (₹5,050 MASL), remains significant. Though globally listed as 'Least Concern' on the IUCN Red List, this cold-adapted wild cat is one of the most elusive, rarely photographed and therefore remains one of the least studied feline species.

Its documentation in Arunachal Pradesh significantly extends the known distribution of the species in the eastern Himalayas, adding to earlier confirmed records from Sikkim in India, Bhutan, and eastern Nepal, the WWF-India said.

"The discovery of Pallas's cat in Arunachal Pradesh at nearly 5,000 m is a powerful reminder of how little we still know about life in the high Himalayas. That a landscape can support snow leopards, clouded leopards, marbled cats, and now Pallas's cat, alongside vibrant pastoral traditions, speaks to its extraordinary richness and resilience. These findings highlight why community-led conservation, grounded in science and local knowledge, is indispensable for securing the future of our fragile rangelands," Rishi Kumar Sharma said.

The team said the camera traps recorded a rare behaviour of a snow leopard and a common leopard scent-marking at the same location, offering fresh insight into how these big cats share fragile alpine habitats. The survey also captured images of the Brokpa herding community and their livestock, underscoring centuries-old pastoral traditions that have enabled coexistence of people and wildlife in these high-altitude rangelands.

Ngilyang Tam, PCCF & CWLW (Wildlife and Biodiversity), Arunachal forest department, said: "These findings reaffirm the state's importance as a global biodiversity hotspot and highlight the need for continued investment in scientific monitoring and conservation."

The camera traps were kept active for over eight months, often in extreme weather and remote, difficult-to-access terrain, the WWF-India report said, adding that the survey involved challenging fieldwork.

BRACING FOR DASARA

A woman gives final touches to dolls displayed for sale ahead of Dasara festivities, in Mysuru on Monday. DH PHOTO/ANUP RAGHT

Rains: Crop loss pegged at Rs 550 crore, says CM

Crop loss, from Page 1

At least 1,110 animals died in the same period with the government having paid Rs 1.52 crore as compensation.

A total of 9,738 houses have been hit (651 completely damaged and 9,087 partially damaged). The government has provided Rs 24 crore in financial assistance to these families.

Since June, public infrastructure has suffered damage due to heavy rainfall, including 683 km of state highways, 1,383 km of major district roads, 5,558 km of village roads, 656 bridges/culverts, 1,877 schools, 160 primary health centres, 1,018 anganwadis, 25,279 electric poles and so on.

Rain forecast

Siddaramaiah said the state may receive more rainfall this month according to forecasts.

"From June 1 to September first week, the state has received 753 mm rainfall against the normal of 721 mm," Siddaramaiah said.

All districts, except Chamarajanagar, have received normal or excess rainfall. "There is drought in Chamarajanagar where the rainfall deficit is 24%. According to the Union government's norms, rainfall deficit below 19% cannot be considered as drought," Siddaramaiah said.

The total gross storage in 14 major reservoirs in Karnataka is 840.52 tmcft, which is 94% of the capacity, according to Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda.

Water for only one crop

Siddaramaiah said the government can release water to irrigate only the primary crops of farmers in the Tungabhadra basin. "It won't be possible to release water for the second crop," he said. The process of replacing eight out of the 32 crest gates is underway, he added.

◆ WEATHER ◆

Overview: Rainfall occurred at few places over North Interior and at most places over Coastal Karnataka and South Interior Karnataka

Forecast Sept 09: Rainfall to occur at many places over the state.

INTERIOR NORTH			
Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Belagavi	27.2	18.2	0.1
Bidar	31.2	20.6	00
Vijayapura	31.2	19	00
Dharwad	27.6	18.6	0.5
Haveri	28.6	20.4	00
Kalaburagi	32.8	21.6	00
Raichur	31	20	00
COASTAL			
Honnavar	29.5	23.1	0.1
Karwar	31.2	24.6	15.2
Shirali	NA	NA	NA
Mangaluru	30.1	23.2	13.6

INTERIOR SOUTH			
Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Agumbe	NA	NA	13.5
Bengaluru	28.4	20.7	0.1
Ballari	NA	NA	NA
Chamarajanagar	30.9	18.7	00
Chikkamagaluru	NA	NA	NA
Chitradurga	26.8	19.6	0.4
Davangere	29.5	20.5	00
Hassan	21.4	NA	00
Mysuru	30	18	00
Madikeri	NA	NA	NA
Kolar	31.1	20.5	00
OTHER STATIONS			
New Delhi	34.4	23.9	00
Kolkata	35.4	28	00
Mumbai	29.5	24.2	11
Chennai	35.5	26.6	00
Pune	26	19.9	05
Hyderabad	31	22.8	00
Th'puram	32.8	25	00

New order: GBA to take over from BDA

GBA, from Page 1

Tushar Girinath, Additional Chief Secretary of the Urban Development Department (UDD), confirmed that there is a proposal to amend the KTCP Act to grant planning powers to the GBA, as it is now part of the Greater Bengaluru Governance Authority Act. He also stated that the GBA will be responsible for preparing Bengaluru's master plan.

A senior official said the government should consider expanding the BDA's jurisdiction beyond 1,200 sq km or take back the planning powers entirely. "Given the manpower BDA has, there is no point planning for just 400 sq km. If it continues, the government may have to pay town planners with no work," he said.

With GBA gaining power, the government plans to empower five newly carved with the authority to approve development plans for all types of buildings irrespective of size and floors, provided it falls within the zoning regulations.

"The GBA will only be responsible for planning for Bengaluru. Corporations will approve building plans and keep a check on violations," a BBMP official said.

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned Government of Karnataka undertaking)

No.GESCOM/CEE(O)/SEE(MIS)/EE(RA)/AEE(RA)/AO(RA)/2025-26/42394-100 Dated:08.09.2025

NOTIFICATION

BEFORE THE KARNATAKA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION,
No.16, C-1, MILLERS TANK BED AREA,
VASANTHANAGAR, BANGALORE– 560 052

IN THE MATTER OF:
Review Petition RP08/2025 before the Hon'ble Commission for tariff modification with respect to Irrigation Pump sets, Commercial and Industrial tariff categories.

Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Limited (GESCOM),
Corporate Office, Station Road, Kalaburagi-585102 & all other ESCOMs **... PETITIONER**

N O T I C E

Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company (GESCOM) along with other ESCOMs, has filed a Review Petition RP 08/2025 before the Hon'ble Commission for tariff modification with respect to Irrigation Pump sets, Commercial and Industrial tariff categories.

The details of tariff modifications are as under:

The Government of Karnataka, in its Budget for FY 2025-26 which was announced on **07.03.2025,** had allocated **Rs. 16,021 Crores** as subsidy for IP Sets.

The Hon'ble Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission have passed the Tariff Order-2025 on 27.03.2025 to be effective for FY 2025-26. In the Tariff Order, the tariff fixed for energy consumption for IP set is **Rs. 8.30** per unit as against the previous year's per unit rate of **Rs. 6.81,** resulting in the total subsidy requirement for all ESCOMs towards the IP set category **Rs. 20,640 Crores** for approved sales. This resulted in a shortfall of subsidy as compared to the budgetary allocation of the GoK.

Every year as a policy, the GOK is announcing the subsidy to provide towards agriculture consumers. For FY 25-26, the GOK has announced Rs. 16,021 Crores as IP Subsidy in the State Budget. The State budget provisions are incorporated initially in the Finance Bill and thereafter in the Act. While determining the tariff and announcing the same, this Hon'ble Commission appears not to have taken into account the State Budget into consideration. As a consequence of not considering the budgetary allocations to the agriculture consumers, the tariff for the agricultural consumers has been fixed much above the proposals made by the Petitioners.

The tariff for the LT-4(a) category, has witnessed a quantum jump which have to be borne by the Government (or Farmers - in the absence of sufficient subsidy from the Government). The said drastic increase in the tariff for IP sets calls for review of the TO 2025. If Commissions Tariff Order is implemented for LT-4(a) category, ESCOMs cannot meet this shortfall in revenue as the same is not provided in the budget. Petitioners can neither recover the shortfall either from the Government or from the Consumers. Therefore, the petition RP-08/2025 was filed for modification/amendment of Tariff Order 2025.

The Tariff Order 2024 provided for cross subsidization of LT4(a) category at 24.67% wrt to Average Cost of Supply. The Tariff Order 2025 provides for cross subsidization of 6.53%, 3.82% for FY-26 and FY-27 respectively. For FY-28, Hon'ble Commission has aimed at eliminating cross subsidization of LT4a category completely.

Further, the recent Tariff Order has introduced changes to various categories of installations. Notably, certain government installations tariff rates have not been altered, while others have been affected. The following categories have been retained at the old tariff rates:

LT6: Water supply **LT6:** Street light **LT6:** EV installations
HT1: Water supply installations **HT6:** Irrigational and Agricultural farms **HT7:** Government Lift irrigation

These categories, being government installations, have been retained with the existing tariff of TO 2024. Though both LT4(a) and the above government installations are cross subsidized by commercial and industrial category of consumers, only LT4(a) tariff has been increased drastically to reduce the cross subsidization.

If Commission's tariff order is implemented for LT-4(a) category, ESCOMs cannot meet this shortfall in revenue as the same is not provided in the budget. Petitioners can neither recover the shortfall either from the Government nor from the Consumers. Therefore, the ESCOMs have filed petition for modification/amendment on the following grounds.

1. **Sec. 64(6) of the Electricity Act, 2003 reads as under**
   A tariff order shall, unless amended or revoked, continue to be in force for such period as may be specified in the tariff order. As per the above provision of the Act, Commission is empowered to amend or modify for the period of the present tariff order.
2. Regulation 8 of the KERC (Conduct and Proceedings) Regulation 2000 which read as under
   (1) The Commission may, either on its own motion or on an application made by any interested or affected party, within 90 days of the making or issuing of any decision, direction, order, notice or other document or the taking of any action in pursuance of these Regulations, review, revoke, revise, modify, amend, alter or otherwise change such decision, direction, order, notice or other document issued or action taken by the Commission or any of its Officers. (2) An application under sub-regulation (1) shall be filed in the same manner as a Petition under Chapter-II of these Regulations.
   As per the above regulation this commission is empowered to review, revise, modify, amend, the tariff order dated 27.03.2025 and reduce the tariff of LT-4(a) category duly taking note of the subsidy GOK is providing towards this category.
3. Under Sec. 94(1)(F), Commission is empowered to review its decision as contemplated under the Civil Procedure Code, 1908 for not considering the budgetary proposal made by the State under the Karnataka Act 21 of 2025 while fixing the tariff for LT-4(a) category.
4. Sec. 175 of the Electricity Act, 2003 provide as follows
   The provisions of this Act are in addition to and not in derogation of any other law for the time being in force.
   The ESCOMs had requested the Government of Karnataka to allocate additional budgetary support towards subsidizing the LT- 4(a) agricultural installations. During the meeting at the government level it was observed that the retail tariff rates of commercial and industrial installations have been decreased and the tariff rates of IP sets have been increased in the Tariff Order'25. Further, it was also observed that there is a drastic decrease in the cross subsidization of the agricultural consumer and also elimination of cross subsidization in FY-28, In order to achieve revenue neutrality, the tariff of industrial and commercial categories is sought to be enhanced. To retain high revenue consumers with ESCOMs, the government of Karnataka has announced an additional grant of **Rs. 2362.47 crores** to provides subsidized power to irrigation pump sets with a capacity below 10HP. Wherefore, the Government of Karnataka stated that it would additionally grant R**s. 2,362.47 crores** towards providing subsidized power to LT-4(a) consumers.

ESCOMs have proposed to fill up the financial gap arising out of reduction in LT-4(a) tariff through the following measures:

i. The present IP set tariff may be reduced from **Rs. 8.30 per unit to Rs.7.35 per unit** so that the state may provide additional subsidy without undue strain on the other revenue requirements of the state. The reduction in LT-4(a) tariff to Rs.7.35 will result in a shortfall of **Rs. 2362.47 Crores** as against the tariffs considered in the Tariff order under review.
ii. Increase the tariff of commercial and industrial installations proportionally as per the table below which will increase the revenue to the extent of **Rs. 1,214.12 crores.**
iii. Consider the additional revenue from miscellaneous sources in comparison to previous year as per Tariff Order, viz interest on arrears, cross subsidy surcharge, FPPCA, wheeling charges, etc. to the extent of Rs. 1148.35.

Hence, the revision in tariff is required. GESCOM and other ESCOMs plans to recover in FY-26 from the proposed revision of Tariff.

The tariff modification proposed is as under:

Categories	T.O.2024		T.O 2025		Tariff to be revised (option-2)		Increase/decrease in Revenue if option 2 is considered against TO 2025
	FC in Rs.	EC in Rs./unit	FC in Rs.	EC in Rs./unit	FC in Rs.	EC in Rs./unit	Amt. in Crores
LT-4 (a) IP<10		**6.81**		**8.30**		**7.35**	**(2,362.47)**
LT-3(a) Commercial	210/220	8.00	215	7.00	235.00	7.10	207.21
LT-5 Industry	140/190	6.10	150	4.50	165.00	5.20	303.20
HT-2(a): Industry	340	6.90	345	6.60	365.00	6.70	262.85
HT-2(b): Commercial	365	8.00	370	5.95	390.00	6.90	440.86
Total of C&I							1,214.12
Additional Miscellaneous Revenue							**1148.35**

From the above table it can be seen that if LT-4(a) tariff is reduced to Rs.7.35 per unit, it will lead to decrease in the revenue of ESCOMs to the extent of Rs. 2,362.47 Crores, which deficit is proposed to be made good by the increase in tariff of Commercial and industrial customers as indicated above to the extent of Rs. 1214.12 Crores and by considering additional Miscellaneous revenue to the extent of Rs. 1148.35 Crores. It is critical to note that, despite the above proposed revisions, the tariff of industrial and commercial customers substantially stands reduced from Tariff Order-2024.

1. Application filed before Commission is **available at GESCOM and other ESCOM¼s website, 2. Further, hard copy of the petition is available at Superintending Engineer(Ele), MIS, Corporate office, Station Road, Kalaburagi -585102. 3.** Pursuant to KERC directions in the review petition RP-08/2025, it is hereby notified that the persons who are interested in filing their objections to the above petition may file the same **with the Receiving Officer, O/o the Secretary, Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission, No.16, C-1, Millers Tank Bed Area, Vasantha Nagar, Bangalore – 560052,** along with the documents on which they want to rely upon, in three sets, duly supported by an affidavit within thirty days from the date of first publication of this Notification and also indicate whether they want to be heard in person. **A copy of the objection may be marked to Superintending Engineer(Ele), MIS, Corporate office, Station Road, Kalaburagi -585102 for furnishing replies to the objections.**

For Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Limited
Sd/- Superintending Engineer(Ele),
MIS, Corporate office, Station Road, Kalaburagi -585102

DIPR/Kalaburagi/484/KSMC&A/2025-26

Priest drowns in Tungabhadra

GANGAVATHI (KOPPAL DISTRICT), DHNS: A priest, who had been to take a bath in River Tungabhadra after the lunar eclipse, died after he fell in the river near Anegondi on Monday. The deceased has been identified as Lakshmana Thikkayya (24) of Kurnool district in Andhra Pradesh.

He had visited a temple on Sunday and stayed at his friend's house. On Monday, he went for a bath in the river. He slipped and was washed away. Women washing clothes noticed him and local fishermen rescued him. He was shifted to the PHC and later to government hospital in Gangavathi. By this time, Lakshmana had died.

16 district hospitals to get automated external defibrillators

Govt to set up 77 new ECG centres across state

BENGALURU, DHNS

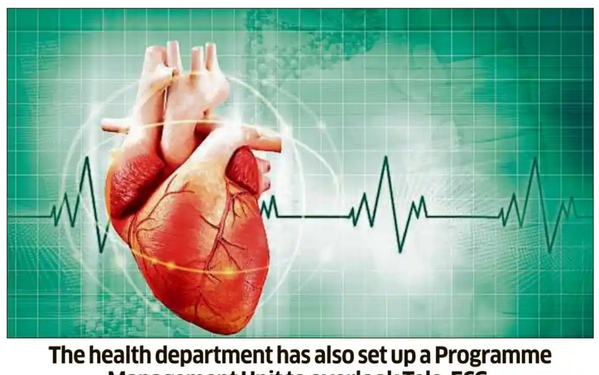
The Health and Family Welfare Department on Monday issued an order to operate Automated External Defibrillators in 16 district hospitals and 147 taluk hospitals.

Fifty per cent of them will be set up under public-private partnership and the other 50% with resources from the department.

Additionally, 77 centres will be set up to expand the STEMI programme, popularly known as the Puneeth Rajkumar Hrudaya Jyothi scheme. These centres will be set up completely with the resources of the department.

The department has also set up a Programme Management Unit (PMU) to overlook Tele-ECG. The team will consist of a cardiologist, physician and state nodal officer, all hired by the department.

The STEMI programme is being set up in three phases. In the first phase, 41 centres were allocated and the tender process for them was completed in March 2025. In the second phase, 45 centres were allocated. The tender process will be completed in March 2026 and now the 77 centres will be set up. The first two phases were conducted in the PPP model.



The health department has also set up a Programme Management Unit to overlook Tele-ECG.

The PMU will have to ensure adherence to accuracy in ECG, reporting protocols and proper reading of Tele-ECG reports. The unit will also follow up on the patients who get the ECG done.

Doctors of the PMU will have to provide expert opinion and feedback on discrepancies in reports and prescribe corrective actions when quality issues are noted.

The government has ordered that the process of the ECG procedure must be completed within 10 minutes. The critical ECG reports must be read by the doctor within the five to six minutes after it is uploaded.

The ECG will be priced at Rs 150 at the district hospital and around 20 ECGs to be conducted everyday and 10 ECGs approximately to be conducted every day, according to the government order.

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy presents the Golden Book of World Records certificate and medal for BMTC's Shakti scheme to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday. KSRTC

Shakti scheme world record certificate presented to CM

BENGALURU, DHNS: Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy presented the recently received Golden Book of World Records certificate and medal for BMTC's Shakti Scheme to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday.

The free bus travel scheme received the recognition for "Most Women Passengers Travelled in State Transport Buses". Sharing his happiness on the occasion, Siddaramaiah said the scheme had "empowered Karnataka's women socially, educationally, economically and professionally."

Karnataka Media Academy in pact with Infosys to upskill journalists

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Karnataka Media Academy has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Springboard, the CSR arm of Infosys, to provide soft skills training for journalists.

This is the first initiative taken up by the academy under the CSR framework.

The MoU was signed on Monday in the presence of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

The programme will focus on digital education, skill development, and capacity-building for media professionals.

"This partnership is a big leap towards adapting to the changing new media. We are optimistic that this innovative platform will play a major role in upskilling media professionals, particularly in the journalistic domain, equipping them with the technical expertise and storytelling finesse required in today's fast-evolving media landscape," said Ayesha Khanum, chairperson of the academy.

As part of the initiative, a three-day training programme will be organised covering digital media skills, use of Artificial Intelligence, and personality development.

Over the next three years, the academy aims to train 150 journalists, with priority for district-level reporters. One batch will be dedicated to women journalists.

Infosys representatives Santhosh Anantapur, Biligiri Ranga, and Girija were present at the MoU signing.

Workers celebrate abolition of contract labour

BENGALURU, DHNS: Pourakarmikas (sanitation workers) held a victory celebration conference, marking the abolition of contract labour, while pressing the government to address their other pending demands.

The All India Municipal and Sanitation Workers Federation—All India Central Council of Trade Unions (AICCTU) released a booklet, titled 'Safaikaramcharis and Other Sanitation Workers–The Struggle for Liberation'.

A press note said the predominantly Dalit women pourakarmikas had waged a relentless struggle to end the "exploitative" contract system. Their efforts, it added, had culminated in a "great victory" with the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) issuing certificates recognising them as permanent employees.

Nirmala, president of the BBMP Pourakarmikara Sangha, said: "The entire country is talking about the victory of BBMP pourakarmikas. This victory was built on the relentless efforts of the union and the workers. Earlier, they earned only Rs 2,000–Rs 5,000 a month despite working full-time. Now, they are able to live with dignity with a monthly wage of Rs 41,000."

Pourakarmikas' union leader Maniyamma urged the government to extend the regularisation scheme to all workers across sectors in Karnataka.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client has negotiated to purchase the property, which is described in the schedule herein below from Smt.Girijamma, Kamalamma, Vimalamma residing at No.33/23, 20th cross, 1st Bloc, Rajajinagar, Bangalore and Smt.Akhila Khanum residing at No.452, V.P Layout, K.R.Puram, Bangalore. Any person or authority having any right/claim of any nature over the schedule property or any portion thereof in any manner may lodge his/her/their claim/objection in writing to the undersigned within 15 days hereof along with copies of all the documents being relied upon, as otherwise my client will proceed to purchase the schedule property as if there are no claims/objections from any person/s.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Item No.1: All that piece and parcel of land measuring 20 guntas bearing Sy.No.64/3, old No.64, situated at Hoody Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and bounded on the:
East by : Hoodi-Whitefield Road
West by : Land bearing Sy.No.64/2
North by : Land bearing Sy.No.64/1
South by : Remaining portion of land bearing Sy.No.64/3

Item No.2: All that piece and parcel of land measuring 32 guntas bearing Sy.No.64/3, old No.64, situated at Hoody Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and bounded on the:
East by : Hoodi-Whitefield Road
West by : Land bearing Sy.No.64/2
North by : Remaining portion of land bearing Sy.No.64/3
South by : Survey No.62

K.Somasekhar Reddy, Advocate.
Address: No.1, 1st Floor, M.C.Plaza
1st Main Road, 1st Cross, Ganganagar,
Bangalore-560 032 Ph No.9448381245

PUBLIC NOTICE

Re: "N.R. CHAMBERS", No. 36 Richmond Road, Bengaluru – 560025, owned by Smt. Lakshmi, Smt. Anjana Devi, Smt. Bhavani, Smt. Shamanna Raj Eshwari & Smt. Shamanna Rama Devi

My Client proposes to acquire the immovable property being the multi-storeyed commercial building known as **"N.R. CHAMBERS"** situated at No.36, Richmond Road, Richmond Town, Bengaluru – 560025 (more fully described in the SCHEDULE hereunder), from its Owners, namely: (1) **Smt. LAKSHMI,** wife of late Sri C.K. Eswara, (2) **Smt. ANJANA DEVI,** wife of late Sri H. Rajanna, (3) **Smt. BHAVANI,** wife of Sri H.N. Soma Shekar, (Nos.1 to 3 being the sisters of late Sri T.M. Narasimhan), (4) **Smt. SHAMANNA RAJ ESHWARI,** wife of Sri Krishnamurthy, and (5) **Smt. SHAMANNA RAMA DEVI,** wife of Sri Anjan Kumar R., (Nos.4 & 5 being the daughters of late Smt. Parvathi, who was the sister of late Sri T.M. Narasimhan) ("OWNERS" for short). The Owners have represented to my Client that they acquired the Schedule Property by way of intestate succession on the demise of the original owner of the same by name Sri T.M. Narasimhan, who died intestate on 01.02.2023, and that they are the joint and absolute owners in occupation, possession and enjoyment of the Schedule Property with unrestricted rights of alienation over the same.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person/s other than the Owners, asserting any right, title, charge, lien, claim/s or any interest whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property or by way of inheritance or succession or otherwise howsoever are hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned their claim/s, if any, over the Schedule Property, or their objection/s, if any, to the aforementioned sale transaction. The said claim/s or objection/s must be in writing, together with documentary proof in support of such claim/s or objection/s, so as to reach the undersigned at the address given below within a period of 15 (Fifteen) days from the date of publication of this Notice. If no such claim/s or objection/s are received, it shall be deemed that no one else other than the Owners has / have any right, title, interest or claim/s whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property and all such claim/s and / or objection/s, if any, will be deemed to have been waived and / or extinguished, and my Client would be at liberty to proceed with the transaction for the purchase of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE

Immovable property being the Land bearing Municipal No.36 (Old Nos.41 & 41/B), situated at Richmond Road, Richmond Town, Bengaluru – 560025, measuring approximately 7,680 square feet (713.50 square meters), having PID No.76-19-36, EPID No.5498507272, together with the Commercial Building thereon known as "N.R. CHAMBERS" comprising a Basement, Ground, First, Second and Third floors, measuring approximately 15,164 square feet (1,408.78 square meters) of built-up area, having PID Nos.76-19-36/1 to 76-19-36/10, EPID Nos. 2074578906, 2822084158, 8942312068, 2670921802, 9418810210, 6452562420, 1917198329, 2023362987, 3213142281 & 6330527975, in BBMP Ward No. 111 – Shanthala Nagar, and bounded and measuring as follows: **East by:** Private Property – 73 feet; **West by:** Tate Lane Cross and remaining property of Mrs. Zeenathunnisa and Legal Representatives of late Mr. Feroz Ahmed – 76 feet 9 inches (+) 26 feet 6 inches; **North by:** Premises No.35 belonging to Mrs. Zeenathunnisa and Legal Representatives of late Mr. Feroz Ahmed –35 feet 6 inches (+) 40 feet 2 inches; **South by:** Richmond Road – 108 feet plus corner loop joining Richmond Road and Tate Lane measuring 19.9 feet.

P.B. APPIAH, Advocate
9 Hayes Road, Richmond Town
Bengaluru – 560025
Email: lawyerappiah@gmail.com
Phone: 98450 15216

PLACE: BENGALURU DATED: 08.09.2025

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
Tender Notice No. : SUR/TD/T/2025/24S

The Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRD), Central Railway, Solapur, for and on behalf of the President of India invites online e-tenders on Railways e-procurement website **www.ireps.gov.in** from reputed, experienced & licensed Electrical contractors for the follwoing works. Tender No. SUR/TD/T/2025/24S Name of Work : Manning of Traction Substations (TSS) and Emergency manning of Sectioning Post (SP) & Sub - sectioning & Paralleling Post (SSP) of Latur, Osmanabad, Barshi Town, Pandharupur, Sangola & Sulgare depot of Solapur division for a period of 02 years. **Estimated cost :** Rs. 1,24,65,412.34/- **Bid Sucurity :** Rs. 2,12,300/- **Completion Period :** 24 months, **Validity of offer :** 60 Days, **Date & time of tender closing on website :** 30.09.2025 at 15:00 hours. 57

असुरक्षित तथा अनाधिकृत रूप से रेल लाइन के पास कार्य करना दंडनीय अपराध है

EASTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender No. LRC_LHB-INSPECTION-CAR_R2, dated 05.09.2025. E-Tender (Open Tender) is invited online by Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer (LHB), Eastern Railway, Liluah, Howrah, Pin-711204 from tenderers having financial and technical capabilities for the following work: **Name of the Work:** Conversion of ER 052110 LWACCN & ER 052117 LWACCN for RA Inspection Coach (Saloon Car) as per drawing. **Approx. Cost of Works:** Rs. 1,67,66,476.66. **Earnest Money:** Rs. 2,33,800/-. **Tender Document Cost:** Rs. 0.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time:** 24.09.2025 at 14.00 hrs. Website where complete Details of Tender is available: **www.ireps.gov.in**

MISC-201/2025-26

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.in

Follow us at: @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Publication of E-Tender Notice No. CAO/CN/BNC/138/2025 Dated: 03-09-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Bagalkot-Kudachi New BG Line Project: Construction of Station building, TM rest house, Labour and Merchant rooms, platforms, FOB, PF Shelter, drainage, Extension of Minor bridges and RUB, laying and linking of three loop lines and other miscellaneous works at Kerkalmatti station including electrical works. (COMPOSITE TENDER) **(Tender Ref. No.: BGK-KUD-48)**	Rs. 37,48,63,558/-

Date of closing of Tender is : **Upto 15:00 hrs on 25-09-2025**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Deputy Chief Engineer/Construction/Works Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/436/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

PROVISION OF PA SYSTEM AND CCTV SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

Tender Notice No.: 07 of 2025-26; Dated: 04-09-2025. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work. **E-Tender No.:** N-2025-26-07-Dy.CSTE-NW; **Name of Work :** Provision of PA system and CCTV Surveillance system in connection with the work of "Provision of additional infrastructural facilities at Community Hall & Senior Institute at Goshala". **Tender Value:** ₹35,21,943.56/-; **Earnest Money :**₹70,400/-; Date & time of **closing** of above tender at **15:00** hrs. on **18-09-2025** and **opening** at **15:30** hrs. on **18-09-2025.** For details please visit in website **www.ireps.gov.in.**

Dy.CSTE/Network, Maligaon
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

Directorate of Tourism,
Department of Tourism, Art Culture, Sports and Youth Affairs,
Govt. of Jharkhand, MDI Building, 2nd Floor, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004
GSTIN-20RCHD00786C1D4, Phone:(0651)2400493,
email:dirjharkhandtourism@gmail.com, Web:https://tourism.jharkhand.gov.in

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender No.: Tour/Dir/Scheme/04/2025-**880**/ Ranchi Date :- **08.09.2025**/

e-Tender for Selection of Agency for Event Management for Jharkhand Tourism. Jharkhand Tourism invites reputed bidders, having experience in similar works in event Management and sound financial status, to participate.

NIT No.	Name of the works	Estimated cost (in Rs.) Including GST and other taxes as applicable	Earnest money to be deposited (in Rs.)	Time of completion of work
Tour/Dir/Scheme /04/2025-**880**.	Request for Proposal for Empanelment of Event Management Agencies for executing State level, National level and international level events organized or participated by Directorate of Tourism, Govt. of Jharkhand	Technical Proposal	Category A-`250000/- Category B-`100000/- Category C- `50000/-	2 Years
Availability of tender documents on website			From 09.09.2025 at 11:00 AM to 03.10.2025 up to 3:00 PM	
Last date and time for uploading of e-tender			Up to 03.10.2025 at 3:00 PM	
Date and time for opening of Tender			at 1:00 PM on 06.10.2025	
Tendering officer and address for communication			Director, Directorate of Tourism, MDI Building, 2nd Floor, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004	

1. e-Tender document and BOQ including terms & conditions, Tender specification, etc. can be downloaded from website https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in. Any details required in the regard can also be procured from the office of the undersigned (0651-2400493) during office hours. NIC helpline no. is 0651-2400178.
2. The bids will be received only through electronic tendering mode.
3. No claim shall be entertained on account of disruption of internet services while uploading the bid. Bidders are advised to upload their bids well in advance to avoid last minute technical snag.
4. Bidders have to submit copy of UTR/reference no. as proof of online payment of tender fee & EMD as mentioned in NIT before the cutoff date &time as mentioned in NIT, failing which bid will not be accepted. The details of finally uploaded BOQ, EMD and DD/ Cheque, etc.of the specified in tender document should be the same as while submitted online (Scanned copies) otherwise tender will not be considered.

PR 361350 Tourism, Art Culture Sports And Youth Affairs (25-26)#D

Sd/-
Dy. Director, Tourism

e-Auction Notice for Leasing of SLR/LVPH

e-Auction Notice No.: LEASE-KGP-25-15 Dated: 08.09.2025

For & on behalf of the President of India, the Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Kharagpur Division, South Eastern Railway invites e-Auction for leasing of SLR/LVPHs for a period of 02 (two) years for transportation of parcels in the trains which are notified in the **https://www.ireps.gov.in/** website. **Category:** Parcel. **Catalogue No.:** LEASE-KGP-25-15. **Date of e-Auction:** 15.09.2025. **Auction Start Time:** 11.00 hrs. **Auction Closing Time:** 16.00 hrs. Interested parties and contractors to take note of this and go through the website as mentioned above for details of the trains and related information about the E-Auction notice. For enquiries/clarifications if any, please contact the office of the undersigned.

(PR-605) **Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Kharagpur**

South Eastern Railway
We serve with a smile

South East Central Railway
MATERIAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
E-TENDER NOTICE NO: NIT/14/25/39, dated: 02-SEPTEMBER-2025

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Description	Tender Closing /Opening Date & Time	Qty.
1	03252310	Bogie center pivot bottom for BOXN HL wagon to RDSODrg. No. WD-97049-S-03, item No. 01, Alt. 11.	19.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	1246 Nos
2	03252683A	Draft Gear including draft gear follower as per RDSO Drawing No. WD-81010-S-03, Alt. 13.	19.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	4350 Nos
3	02251741	Set of maintenance kit for Emergency exhaust valve of 70 Brake system for 3 phase loco	26.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	331 Set
4	02254276	MDL PWR 68817CRIAA-Rectifier for Auxiliary converter	26.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	05 Nos
5	02254252	Power Supply PSU for DCU2/HPP 110V IC21	22.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	44 Nos
6	03253165A	Set of Nested Snubber spring Outer & Inner for LWLH 25 Ton Bogie of BOXNS Wagons	26.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	979 Set
7	06250109C	Manufacture and Supply of 6mm thick Nylon Cord Reinforced Grooved Rubber Sole Plate for fan shaped Turnout for 60 kg Rails 1 in 85	29.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	1482 Set
8	02253877	Gauge for Differential gauge (Air Flow Indicator),	26.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	337 Nos
9	02251794	"Set of maintenance Kit for air line sieve"	22.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	125 Set
10	03252021	Brake Wear Plate(Pocket liner) for Casnub Bogie	29.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	29815 Nos
11	02251784B	21 Teeth shaft pinion "	22.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	313 Nos
12	06255082	Design, Manufacture, Supply and erection of 05 (five) Ton Capacity Diesel Hydraulic Rail Crane, mounting of the same on Railway supplied Broad Gauge wagon.	29.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	02 Nos
13	05255195	Underground Jelly Filled Quad Cable for Signaling and Telecom Installation, Size: 6 Quad X 0.9 mm dia, RDSQ Specification No. IRS:TC-30/2005(Ver.1) amendment No. 1 to 5 or latest amendment.	23.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	1594 KMS
14	06251039B	Procurement of Stainless Steel Seamless pipe to ASTM-A 312 Schedule 40S Gr.TP 304 (Seamless) in lengths of 6 meters 32 mm NB X heavy duty outside diameter.	29.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	14750 Meter
15	06250082	Running Contract for the supply of "10125 mm Thick Web Switches-60 Kg 1 in 12"	23.09.2025 At 10:30 hrs	820 Set

Railway reserve the right to issue any corrigendum to the tenders. Corrigendum & Important Notice to vendors may be seen in the link **www.ireps.gov.in.**

AMM/II
CPR/10/AM/302 **For PCMM S.E.C.Rly, Bilaspur**

South East Central Railway @secrail

केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन
पी.एम श्री केन्द्रीय विद्यालय, एएफएस, यलहंक, बेंगळूरु - ५६००६३
(शैक्षण सचिवालयद स्वायत्त संस्थे, भारत सर्कार)
पीएम श्री केन्द्रीय विद्यालय, एएफएस, यलहंका, बेंगलुरु: 560063
(शिक्षा मंत्रालय भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संस्थान)
PM SHRI KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA, AFS, YELAHANKA, BENGALURU:560063
(An Autonomous Body, under Ministry of Education, Government of India)
Website:https://afsyelahanka.kvs.ac.in **Mail:**kvafsyel63@gmail.com **Phone: 08029721121**

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Walk-in-interview at PM SHRI K.V AFS Yelahanka on **16.09.2025 from 8.30 AM onwards for** various posts of Contractual Teachers for the session 2025-26

REGISTRATION TIME - 08.30 AM TO 10.00 AM

Date	Post & Subject
16.09.2025	**TGT - Science, Mathematics. PRT, Balvatika Teacher**
	Other posts – Computer Instructor, Dance Coach, Music Coach, Academic Counsellor, Special Educator, Art & Craft Coach and ATL Lab Instructor,
Note:	1. Candidates to report along with duly filled application form, Original Certificates of qualification, one set of self-attested copy of Certificates & two passport size photographs for registration.
	2. No TA/DA will be provided for interview.
	3. To download application form and details of eligibility criteria please visit the Vidyalaya website **https://afsyelahanka.kvs.ac.in**

Principal

LOOKING FOR JOB OPPORTUNITY
Refer Classifieds on Wednesday

K.I.M.S HOSPITAL & RESEARCH CENTRE
K.R.Road, V.V.Puram, Bangalore - 560 004.
Ref.: KIMSH/Admin/1857/2025-26

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER FOR SUPPLY OF GENERIC DRUGS

1) Purchase Committee of Rajya Vokkaligara Sangha invites tender from eligible tenderers FOR **THE SUPPLY OF GENERIC DRUGS to KIMS Hospital,** K.R.Road, V.V. Puram, Bangalore-560004 in Two cover bid system from Suppliers. **2)** The tenderers may submit their tender form and are advised to note all the eligibility criteria, terms and conditions as specified in tender Document. **3)** The tender application will be issued from **11.09.2025 to 18.09.2025 between 10.00 am and 04.00 pm @ Tender section, KIMS Hospital & Research Centre on payment of non-refundable tender form fee of Rs.5900/- including 18% GST** through DD favouring AMO, KIMS Hospital & Research Centre, Payable at Bangalore. **4)** Last date for submitting the Filled Bid document is on or before **30.09.2025 by 4.00 pm.** 5) Earnest money deposit amount should be paid through Demand Draft in favour of **AMO, KIMS Hospital & Research Centre payable at Bangalore.** Tenderer should submit the documents in Two covers system 1 containing Technical Bid and EMD mentioned in a separate cover. Cover 2 should contain only financial bid addressing in the name of "AMO, KIMS Hospital". **a)** EMD/SD as mentioned in tender document will be accepted in the form of Demand Draft drawn in favour of **"AMO KIMS Hospital"**, payable at Bangalore shall accompany the bid in Technical Document cover if EMD not enclosed in Technical Bid Financial Bid will not be opened. **6)** The tender document is non-transferable. **7)** Terms and conditions & other details applicable as per the tender document.

Sd/-

Chairman | Chairman Purchase Committe | Treasurer RVS | Jt. Secretary RVS | Gen. Secretary RVS | Vice president 1 & 2 RVS | Hon. President RVS | President RVS

सत्यमेव जयते
Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA)
Government of India
3rd Floor, Udaan Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi - 110003
Ph.: 011-24695044

PUBLIC NOTICE

STAKEHOLDERS' CONSULTATION MEETING FOR FORMULATION OF PERFORMANCE STANDARDS OF MAJOR AIRPORTS RELATING TO QUALITY, CONTINUITY AND RELIABILITY OF SERVICE AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES

Ministry of Civil Aviation in accordance with the provision of Section 51 (2)(f) of the AERA Act, 2008, is in the process of formulating Rules for Performance Standards of Major Airports Relating to Quality, Continuity and Reliability of Service and Associated Activities. In this regard, Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA) has issued a Consultation Paper No. 03/2025-26 on 18.08.2025, containing the proposed Performance Standards including monitoring mechanism thereof (which is available on AERA website at URL https://aera.gov.in).

The various proposals contained in the Consultation Paper, are put forth for Stakeholders' Consultation. A Stakeholders Consultation Meeting in hybrid mode (Physical/Online) in this regard is scheduled on **10th September, 2025 at 01:30 PM** at:

Indian Aviation Academy,
Vasant Kunj, New Delhi - 110070.

All stakeholders like Airport Operators, Airlines, Passengers / Passengers' Associations, General Public, Industry Associations / Bodies, Independent Service providers for Cargo, Ground Handing Fuel Farm etc., are requested to join the said meeting and give their valuable suggestions / comments / views on the aforesaid Consultation Paper for Formulation of Performance Standards of Major Airports Relating to Quality, Continuity and Reliability of Service and Associated Activities.

For participants wishing to join online, the link will be available on AERA website (https://aera.gov.in) before the Stakeholders meeting under Tab "News and Announcements".

Sd/-
Secretary, AERA

CBC 03112/12/0008/2526

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
Government of India
NATIONAL YOUTH AWARD 2024

With reference to the advertisement published on **25th August, 2025, the last date for submission of applications for the award has been extended to 30th September, 2025.**

Website:https://awards.gov.in/

All other details of the advertisement remain unchanged.

CBC 47107/11/0010/2526

INDIAN PORTS ASSOCIATION
1st Floor, NBCC Place, South Tower, B.P. Marg, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003
RECRUITMENT FOR HR DIVISION POSTS ON DEPUTATION BASIS
ADVT. No. IPA/PHRD/2025

Indian Ports Association invites applications for the following posts in the HR Division on deputation basis : **Deputy General Manager (HR) - 01, Senior Manager (HR) - 01, Manager (HR) - 01, Assistant Manager (HR)-2, Assistant Manager (Data Analytics) -01, and Secretary (Major Ports Sports Control Board)-01.** The Last date for receipt of applications is **30.09.2025 (17.00 hrs).** For detailed advertisement including eligibility criteria, terms and conditions, and application procedure, candidates may visit the official website **www.ipa.nic.in**

CBC 37203/12/0006/2526 **Chief Administrative Officer(i/c)**

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KHARAGPUR

Advt. No. R/07/2025 dated August 27, 2025

The Institute invites **Online Applications** from Indian Nationals for the following position:

1. **Chief Engineer-** 1 Post
(Level-14 of Pay Matrix Rs. 144200 - 218200)

Last date of online application: 26-09-2025

For details regarding educational qualification, experience and updates visit:
http://www.iitkgp.ac.in/non-teaching-positions

CBC 21255/12/0011/2526 **Registrar**

The ghost of 2020 returns: Will Chirag upset Nitish's poll cart in Bihar?

JD(U) chief not keen on ceding much space to Ram Vilas Paswan's son

ABHAY KUMAR
PATNA

On December 2, 1989, veteran Socialist Ram Vilas Paswan was sworn in as a Union minister for the first time in the VP Singh-led National Front government. On the same day, Nitish Kumar also took oath as a minister in the same administration. But there was a difference: Paswan was appointed Cabinet Minister in charge of the Social Welfare Department, while Nitish Kumar was made Minister of State for Agriculture. Both were Lok Sabha MPs from Bihar, representing the then undivided Janata Dal — Paswan from Hajipur and Nitish from Barh.

Paswan and Nitish have shared a friendship since the JP movement of the mid-1970s. However, Nitish, who is also the JD(U) chief, does not enjoy the same rapport with Paswan's son, Chirag Paswan, currently a Union Minister and leader of the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP-R). In fact, Nitish and Chirag have never contested an Assembly election as allies.

Chirag Paswan

Lately, Chirag has signalled his party's intent to contest all 243 Assembly seats, echoing his 2020 strategy. Back then, while proclaiming himself Narendra Modi's 'Hanuman', Chirag fielded candidates in 137 constituencies, mostly against Nitish's nominees.

While Chirag's party managed to win just one seat and lost the remaining 136, it served the BJP's undeclared purpose. Chirag's campaign dented Nitish's prospects, reducing the JD(U) to just 43 seats in the 243-member House.

A similar scenario appears to be unfolding for 2025, with a resurgent BJP keen to leverage Nitish for votes while also curbing his influence by using Chirag.

"If there is any party in Bihar capable of contesting all 243 seats, it's the LJP-R. In 2020, we secured 6% of the vote. If we contest every seat in 2025, both our vote share and seat tally will rise," said Arun Bharti, LJP-R MP and brother-in-law of Chirag.

"Chirag is either overly ambitious or acting at the behest of the BJP's top leadership. Is Nitish unaware of how Chirag damaged him in 2020, and at whose behest?" argued veteran political scientist Ajay Kumar.

The LJP-R's announcement to contest all seats came after it became clear that Nitish was unwilling to cede much ground to the 'newbie' Chirag.

According to NDA sources, the ruling alliance has reached a broad consensus: the JD(U) and BJP will contest 102 and 101 seats respectively, while 20 seats will be allocated to Chirag's party.

DH CHANGEMAKERS TO WATCH IN 2026

Nominations Open

Each year, DH recognises extraordinary people who persevere and overcome difficult odds to usher in change.

Since the DH Changemaker awards were launched in 2019, we have identified 150-plus trailblazers from across Karnataka in areas such as community empowerment, health, conservation, entrepreneurship, and the arts.

This year, it is time to begin our search for 15 Changemakers -- we seek to highlight their efforts, celebrate their achievements, and share their stories. On New Year's Day in 2026, we will publish print, web and video stories about these achievers.

We invite nominations from readers starting today. Send in details of individuals (below 45) and teams that you think deserve the Changemakers title and honour.

The last date for submitting nominations is September 18, 2025. Scan the QR code to make a nomination.

India seeks a predictable trade environment at Brics meet

Tries a balancing act amid hopes for a thaw with US

ANIRBAN BHAUMIK
NEW DELHI DHNS

With New Delhi and Washington trying to bring the ties back from the brink, India on Monday stressed a "stable and predictable environment for trade and investment", but, unlike some of its Brics partners, cautiously refrained from going full steam ahead in criticising United States President Donald Trump's tariff wars.

"The world as a collective is seeking a stable and predictable environment for trade and investment. At the same time, it is imperative that economic practices are fair, transparent and to everyone's benefit," External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said as he represented Prime Minister Narendra Modi in an extraordinary virtual meeting of the Brics leaders convened by Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

"The world requires constructive and cooperative approaches to promote trade that is sustainable. Increasing barriers and complicating transactions will not help. Neither would the linking of trade measures to non-trade matters," he said.

Lula convened the meeting of the Brics leaders to discuss Trump's tariff wars that disrupted global commerce. Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russia's Vladimir Putin were among the leaders who personally attended the meeting.

Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar during a virtual meeting with the Brics (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) leaders. PTI

With Trump often accusing the Brics of pursuing an anti-US agenda and even threatening the bloc's members with an additional 10% tariff, New Delhi sought to maintain a strategic balance by lowering the level of representation in the virtual meeting.

Besides, just days after the bonhomie between Modi, Xi, and Putin had been put on public display on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's summit, an exchange of positive vibes between New Delhi and Washington raised hope for a thaw.

"When there are multiple disruptions, our objective should be to prove it against such shocks. That means creating more resilient, reliable, redundant and shorter supply chains," Jaishankar said.

Jaishankar also referred to the issue of trade deficit within the Brics. "The Brics itself can set an example by reviewing trade flows among its member states. Where India is concerned, some of our biggest deficits are with Brics partners, and we have been pressing for expeditious solutions. "We hope that this realisation will be part of the takeaways from today's meeting," he said.

Rift in Kerala BJP over Sree Narayana Guru events

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday lauded the contributions of Sree Narayana Guru on his birth anniversary on Sunday, but discontent was quietly brewing within the BJP's Kerala unit. Several party leaders questioned whether the state leadership was showing discrimination against the social reformer because he belonged to the Hindu–Ezhava OBC community.

The BJP state leadership's directive to the OBC Morcha to organise events marking the birth anniversary sparked unease among some members, who viewed it as an attempt to position him primarily as an OBC figure. One national council member even resigned in protest, making his dissent public.

The developments could pose a setback to the BJP's efforts to gain the support of Hindu–Ezhava voters. The Ezhavas, Kerala's largest Hindu community, have traditionally leaned towards the Left. However, in the previous election, the BJP had begun making inroads into this vote bank.

BJP national council member KA Bahuleyan, who is also the assistant secretary of the Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana (SNDP) Yogam, expressed his discontent and announced his resignation from the national council in a social media post. He questioned whether the BJP continued to view Sree Narayana Guru as an OBC leader, which, he said, was the reason the OBC Morcha had been tasked with organising the birth anniversary celebrations. In contrast, he pointed out, it is the BJP itself that oversees the celebrations for Sree Krishna Jayanti.

TP Senkumar, former state police chief and vice president of the All India Sabarimala Action Council, also publicly criticised the BJP's decision. He said that the move contradicts the Guru's teachings that people do not belong to any particular caste or religion.

Meanwhile, the BJP's coalition partner BDJS, which is affiliated with the SNDP Yogam, has sought to downplay the resentment, treating it as a non-issue.

BDJS president Thushar Vellapally told *DH* that the OBC Morcha had merely been assigned the task of coordinating the programmes. He said that BJP state leaders were actively involved in the events, and therefore, there was no question of discrimination.

BJP national executive member PK Krishna Das also defended the party's stance, saying that the BJP adheres to the teachings of Sree Narayana Guru and that his birth anniversary was celebrated at party offices.

Senior journalist Sankarshan Thakur dies at 63

NEW DELHI, PTI: Veteran journalist Sankarshan Thakur, editor of *The Telegraph,* whose prowess with words added that extra edge to his analyses and ground reports, died at a Gurgaon hospital on Monday after a prolonged illness. He was 63.

Born in Patna in 1962, Thakur was the son of senior journalist Janardhan Thakur. Thakur, who began his journalism career in 1984 with *SUNDAY* magazine, is survived by wife Sona, daughter Jahan and son Ayushman.

Sankarshan Thakur

He worked in several places, including *The Indian Express*, *Tehelka* and *The Telegraph* in two stints. Known for his sharp political commentary, empathetic pen and distinctive personal style—often seen with his trademark upturned shirt collar—Thakur was a keen chronicler of Indian politics, particularly Bihar.

His untimely death led to an outpouring of grief on social media and elsewhere. Several politicians, including J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh and RJD's Manoj Kumar Jha remembered the journalist for his incisive writings.

PM to chair key defence meet on 'theatre commands'

KALYAN RAY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will on September 15 preside over a key defence meeting that will discuss the creation of the long-awaited "theatre commands" even though the Indian Air Force has raised fresh concerns to idea after Operation Sindoor.

The Prime Minister will be at the three-day Combined Commanders Conference in Kolkata where Chief of the Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan is likely to make presentations on a roadmap on forming "theatre commands" in a bid to reform the higher defence command structure in the armed forces, sources said.

In an official statement, the defence ministry on Monday said that the conference would focus on reforms, transformation and change, and operational preparedness, reflecting the armed forces' commitment to institutional reforms, deeper integration and technological modernisation, while sustaining a high level of multi-domain operational readiness.

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan

"The deliberations will seek to further strengthen the armed forces, which are agile and decisive in an increasingly complex geo-strategic landscape," it says.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, CDS Gen Chauhan, three Service Chiefs, defence secretary and other top officials will attend the conference.

Gen Chauhan, sources said, might make presentations on the proposed theatre commands that were in the works since 2019 when Gen Bipin Rawat was appointed as the first CDS. His task was to reduce the number of operational commands from the existing 17 commands shared between the army (7), air force (7) and navy (3).

The IAF had opposed the idea from the beginning. A fresh criticism came two weeks back from Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A P Singh who publicly countered the idea of theatre commands. "I personally feel that having a joint planning and coordination centre in Delhi is what is required," the Air Chief Marshal said, noting that it should be kept under the Chiefs of Staff Committee.

However, the Army and Navy Chiefs backed the idea with Gen Upendra Dwivedi asserting that it would only be a matter of time before theatre commands would be realised.

"Theaterisation will come, today or tomorrow. We just have to see how long it will take. We have to go through certain steps to bring in theaterisation, which includes jointness, integration. A lot of things need to be discussed over that," Gen Dwivedi said on Friday.

The initial plans on theatre commands underwent multiple iterations, and following the untimely death of Gen Rawat, the task was entrusted to Gen Chauhan.

The current idea is to have operational commands in the northern and eastern sectors, looking at the disputed boundary with China, besides one command for the western border with Pakistan and a maritime command. It is not clear if there will be a separate command for the IAF or air assets will be distributed among new commands.

3 of Faridabad family killed as AC compressor explodes

FARIDABAD, PTI: A couple along with their daughter and pet died after an air conditioner (AC) compressor exploded in their house here on Monday morning, while the son survived by jumping from the balcony, police said.

According to police, Aryan Kapoor (24) sustained fractures to his legs and is undergoing treatment at a hospital.

Police suspect that a short circuit caused a fire in the AC, due to which it exploded.

The incident occurred at the Green Field Colony here around 3.30 am when the family was asleep. They resided on the second floor of a rented four-story building, a senior police officer said.

4 Naxals held in Chhattisgarh

BIJAPUR, PTI: Four Naxalites, including three women—carrying a cumulative bounty of Rs 5 lakh on their heads—were arrested in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district, while a 10-kg tiffin bomb was recovered in a separate incident, police said on Monday.

One of the arrested rebels is aged 19 and carried a reward of Rs 2 lakh, the highest among all four, they said. Explosive materials and Maoist propaganda material were seized from them, according to police.

In a separate incident, a 10-kg tiffin bomb and a barrel grenade launcher shell were recovered by security forces in Bijapur on Monday, according to the police.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(Finance Department)
FISCAL POLICY INSTITUTE (FPI)
Bangalore-Mysore Road, Kengeri, Bengaluru - 560 060.
Ph: 080-2697 1000, Website: www.fpibengaluru.karnataka.gov.in
No.: FPI-PROCOTNDR(IT)/1/2025-ADMN Date:08.09.2025
e-TENDER NOTIFICATION
Fiscal Policy Institute (FPI) invites Tender through e-procurement in two-covers mode, from the reputed agencies for the following service.
"TENDER FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF DESKTOPS, LAPTOPS AND MINI DESKTOPS"
Last date: 23.09.2025 till 11.00 AM.
The Tender details may be downloaded from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
DIPR/CP/YC/2703/2025-26
Sd/- For Director
Fiscal Policy Institute (FPI)

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(Finance Department)
FISCAL POLICY INSTITUTE (FPI)
Bangalore-Mysore Road, Kengeri, Bengaluru - 560 060.
Ph: 080-2697 1000, Website: www.fpibengaluru.karnataka.gov.in
No.: FPI-PROCOTNDR/1/2025-ADMN-FPI Date:08.09.2025
e-TENDER NOTIFICATION
Fiscal Policy Institute (FPI) invites Tender through e-procurement in two-covers mode, from the reputed agencies for the following service.
"Tender From Agencies To Provide Security Services To Fiscal Policy Institute-Call 2"
Last date: 23.09.2025 till 11.00 AM.
The Tender details may be downloaded from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
DIPR/CP/YC/2702/2025-26
Sd/- For Director
Fiscal Policy Institute (FPI)

First Vande Bharat Sleeper to connect Delhi and Patna

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The first Vande Bharat Sleeper Express expected to be launched during Deepavali. DH FILE PHOTO

Ahead of the Bihar Assembly elections, slated towards the end of this year, Indian Railways is planning to launch its first Vande Bharat Sleeper Express, which is expected to connect Delhi and Patna via Prayagraj.

The current Bihar Assembly's term will end on November 22, and the Election Commission is required to complete the election process before that date. The polls are likely to be held in or before mid-November.

The train, which reportedly provides a more comfortable journey to passengers with modern amenities and is designed for overnight journeys, is expected to be launched during Deepavali as a festival gift to the poll-bound state, said sources.

The train will reportedly cover the distance between Delhi and Patna via Prayagraj in 11.5 hours, said sources.

BEML is manufacturing the first prototype of the Vande Bharat Sleeper train set. The sleeper version of the train will reportedly offer superior features compared to current premium overnight travel options like the Rajdhani Express or the Tejas Express.

The Vande Bharat Sleeper Express is also expected to boast a top speed of 180 km per hour.

The Vande Bharat Sleeper trains will have 16 coaches, including 11 AC 3-tier coaches, four AC 2-tier coaches, and one AC 1st-Class coach.

These trains will reportedly have sensor-based inter-communication doors, noise-insulation and mitigation measures for a silent saloon space, special berths and toilets for the differently-abled, and automatic entry-and-exit passenger doors.

SHIVAMOGGA, DAVANAGERE & CHITRADURGA DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCER'S SOCIETIES UNION LTD.,
MACHENAHALLI, NIDIGE (POST), SHIVAMOGGA- 577222
No.SDCMUL/AGM/3171/2025-26 Date: 08.09.2025
2024-25 ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING NOTICE
Shivamogga, Davanagere and Chitradurga District Co-operative Milk Producer's Societies Union Ltd., (SHIMUL) Shivamogga conducting its Annual General Body Meeting for the year 2024-25 at "Prerana" convention hall PESIT (INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT) College Sagar Road, Shivamogga on 25.09.2025 Thursday at 11:00 am under the chairmanship of Sri. Vidyadhara all the honourable members of the Milk Union are requested to attend the meeting within scheduled time.
Sd/-
MANAGING DIRECTOR

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No. SE(E)/Tr(O)C-N/EE(E)/AE(E)/F-T6/25-26/1488 Date: 08.09.2025
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only)
KPTCL invites Tenders vide **Tender No:-KPTCL/2025-26/IND0226** for Design, Manufacture, Testing and supply of 8290 meters of 19Cx2.5Sqmm Control Cable to various Sub Stations coming under the jurisdiction of Transmission (Operations) Circle-North, KPTCL Bengaluru.
The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink 'E Procurement KPTCL' or to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **10.09.2025.**
Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele),
Transmission (Operations) Circle-North, KPTCL,
UAS Campus, Hebbala, Bengaluru - 560024

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ, ಇಲಾಖೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ
ಸಂ: 06/2025–2026 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 08.09.2025
ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಮಂಡ್ಯ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಏಟಂವಾರುದರದ ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ KW- 1,2 & 4 ರೀತಿ ಏಕ/ ದ್ವಿ ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅರ್ಹಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ https:// kppp. karnataka. gov.in ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಾಗಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆಯನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ವಿಭಾಗ ಮಂಡ್ಯ, ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದಿ: 12.09.2025 ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11–00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ದಿ: 08.09.2025 ರಿಂದ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ದಿ: 15.09.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿ: 16.09.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4.30ಘಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ, ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 17.09.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4.31 ಘಂಟೆ ನಂತರ ಅಥವಾ ನಂತರದ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಗಳು, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 18.09.2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಅಥವಾ ನಂತರದ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಗಳು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ಬೆಲೆ ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ರಂತೆ. ಕಾಲಮಿತಿ: ಮಳೆಗಾಲ ಸೇರಿ 15 ದಿನಗಳು /12 ತಿಂಗಳು, ಒಟ್ಟು 45 (ನಲವತ್ತೈದು), ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.300.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.6.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಬೆಲೆ ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ರಂತೆ, ಕೆಲಸಗಳ ವಿವರ, ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ., ಮೊತ್ತ ಮುಂತಾದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸದರಿಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.
ಟಿಪ್ಪಣಿ: 1) ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡದೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯ ಮುಂದೂಡುವಿಕೆ /ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ರದ್ದುಗೊಳಿಸುವ/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಿರಾಕರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. **2)** ಇನ್ನು ಮುಂದೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳು ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ, ಬದಲಾಗಿ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾ.ಇಂ.,ಲೋ.ಇ.,ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ,
ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮುಂದೂಡಿಕೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 03/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 04–09–2025
ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ:– ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:13/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 30.08.2025
ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖಿತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಕಡೂರು ವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಪಡುವ 3054–03–337–0–05–200 ರಾಜ್ಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ ರಸ್ತೆಗಳ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ ಅಡಿ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ :04 (ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವರ್ಗ) ಹಾಗೂ 3054–04–337–1–10–200 ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮುಖ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆಗಳ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ ಅಡಿ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 25 ರಿಂದ 32 (ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವರ್ಗ) ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 37 (ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–1) ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 43 (ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ–2ಎ) ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 49 (ಎಸ್.ಸಿ) ಮತ್ತು ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 51 (ಎಸ್ ಟಿ) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕವಾಗಿ 09.09.2025 ಎಂದು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ಮುಂದೂಡಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ದಿನಾಂಕ:15.09.2025 ಎಂದು ಮರು ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಉಳಿದಂತೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳು ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.
ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು

DECCAN HERALD
ESTABLISHED 1948

Goals for a greying country

Data from the Sample Registration System (SRS) report for 2023 show that India has crossed an important demographic threshold. The country's birth and death rates have fallen to nearly half the levels about 50 years ago. The total fertility rate (TFR) is 1.9, which is much lower than the replacement level of 2.1 – the rate at which the population remains stable. This drop indicates a population decline. Rural fertility now stands at 2.1, and urban fertility has fallen to 1.6. The crude birth rate has fallen from 36.9 per 1,000 in 1971 to 17.2 in 2023, while the crude death rate has dropped from 14.9 to 6.4. Infant mortality has declined from 129 per 1,000 live births in the 1970s to 22 today, and the maternal mortality ratio has fallen to 97 per 1,00,000 from about 800.

Better standards in education, economy, health, and social conditions have translated into improved population statistics. Rising life expectancy and falling fertility would, together, create greater demand for elder care facilities that remain inadequate in India. The country should brace for the economic and social challenges an ageing population presents. It is important that the changes are interpreted rightly and acted upon with informed strategies. An equally important challenge is to make use of the demographic advantage while it lasts. India has a small window for action now. The working-age segment is about 65% of the population, and a large section of this segment is not productive. About 42% of the youth are not in formal employment and are not adequately educated. The female labour force participation rate is a mere 37%. India has to educate and provide skills to its youth and ensure at least basic health standards for them. It is also imperative that they are provided adequate economic opportunities and are encouraged to be part of the country's development process.

The challenge will be in skilling the youth while bracing for the demands of an ageing population

There are variations in fertility and mortality rates between different regions and states in the country. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Madhya Pradesh lag behind other states – they rank low in socio-economic indicators as well. This has reaffirmed familiar anxieties among other states. Their concerns should be addressed in such a way that they do not end up with the perception that they are being penalised for performing better. A falling birth rate is an advantage if the right policies and strategies are formulated to deal with it. It should be ensured that India does not grow old before it attains at least medium levels of development.

In polls, trust outweighs method

In a politically charged decision, the Karnataka cabinet has recommended that all local body elections in the state be held using ballot papers instead of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs). The move follows the Congress party's persistent allegations that EVMs are vulnerable to tampering, thereby undermining the credibility of the electoral process. But the real test lies ahead: if Congress performs poorly in ballot-based elections, will it accept the results, or will the narrative shift once more? Ultimately, public trust in elections cannot depend on outcomes; it must rest on the strength of institutions and the integrity of processes.

Supporters of ballot papers argue that they restore voter confidence by offering a visible, tangible proof of voting. Unlike EVMs, ballot papers are immune to hacking, software glitches, or the suspicion of invisible manipulation. They also provide a physical audit trail that can be manually recounted in the event of disputes. While EVMs are backed by Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) slips, critics argue these do not inspire the same trust as traditional ballot papers. However, ballot papers are far from flawless. They are vulnerable to booth capturing and ballot stuffing – malpractices that had dramatically declined after the introduction of EVMs. Counting ballots manually is slow, costly, and prone to errors. The environmental cost of printing millions of ballot papers is substantial. Ballot-based elections also tend to witness a higher percentage of invalid votes due to unclear markings, further diluting democratic choice.

Ballot or EVM? The credibility hinges on institutional strength and integrity of processes

Globally, ballot papers are still widely used. Countries like the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, and Japan continue to rely on paper-based systems with varying levels of technological support. India pioneered large-scale use of EVMs precisely to overcome fraud and logistical challenges associated with paper ballots. By reverting to ballots, Karnataka risks rolling back a reform that had addressed many of these shortcomings. The credibility of elections is not about the medium – ballot or machine – but about the integrity of the process and the willingness of political players to respect the people's verdict. Technology can help reduce flaws, and paper can offer visible reassurance, but neither is foolproof if political actors refuse to play fair. What matters most is building institutions strong enough to inspire trust regardless of who wins or loses. If Karnataka's experiment with ballots restores confidence, so be it; if not, the demand for machines will resurface. In the end, democracy cannot afford to be held hostage to suspicion – it can survive only on trust, transparency, and acceptance of the people's mandate.

FUTURE-PROOF FTAS

Reconciling trade ambitions with public health

Trade agreements power economic growth, but their provisions must also ensure protection for citizens' health

AMITABHA SARKAR

India is advancing an ambitious trade agenda with thirteen free trade agreements (FTAs), some pending implementation and others under negotiation. A landmark milestone is the FTA with the United Kingdom, signed in July 2025, granting Indian firms near tariff-free access while easing duties on 90% of UK goods. The India-EFTA TEPA, effective October 2025, pledges $100 billion in investments to boost jobs and manufacturing. Ongoing talks with the EU, US, Australia, and GCC aim to diversify partners and expand exports. While these agreements hold significant potential for economic growth, they must concurrently safeguard citizens' health in the face of widening global inequality, disruptions to multilateralism, growing corporate influence, and the spread of misinformation.

Foreign trade and investment agreements flow through shifts in policy space, market dynamics, and corporate practices can either reinforce or undermine public health outcomes. The global food system exemplifies how trade shapes health. Often, FDI from transnational food corporations has increased high-fat, high-sugar, high-salt (HFSS) and ultra-processed food availability, displacing traditional diets and driving obesity and NCDs, as seen in Mexico, Chile, and Thailand. India mirrors this trend, with their sales growing 13.3% annually during 2011-2021, as calculated by the 2023 WHO-ICRIER White Paper. Regulatory responses, like front-of-pack warning labels, advertising restrictions, sugar taxes, and healthy food procurement policies, are often found to be incomplete and inconsistent. This makes it all the more concerning that the final UN draft declaration on NCDs included increased concessions to soda and alcohol industries, reflecting how commercial pressures continue to dilute global health commitments.

India's evolving free trade architecture further complicates this picture. Its FTAs with the UK, Australia, UAE, and ASEAN commendably include crucial safeguards for agriculture and dairy, thereby supporting food security for nearly 260 million farmers. However, they fall short on ensuring nutrition security, an omission that is especially critical amid India's dual burden of malnutrition and rising obesity. Moreover, low farm incomes hinder the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices, while import surges, dietary simplification, and stringent sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) barriers risk reducing access to diverse, nutrient-rich foods. Similar challenges are emerging in FTA negotiations with the EU and Canada, where non-tariff barriers, like complex labelling, certification, and testing rules, have already constrained India's agricultural exports.

To address these risks, India must embed explicit food and nutrition security provisions in future FTAs, support crop diversification, and ensure that trade strengthens rather than undermines farmer livelihoods and public health goals.

These issues are central to how trade and investment treaties, i.e., multilateral (WTO), bilateral (FTAs, BITs), or services-oriented (GATS), reshape health policy space. Provisions on intellectual property (TRIPS), investor-state dispute settlements (ISDS) under BITs, and excessive services liberalisation can delay or discourage regulations on drug pricing, generic medicine entry, tobacco and alcohol control, food safety, occupational standards, and water access. Cumulatively, these constraints could fuel a transnational public health crisis that national health systems, designed for domestic risks, are ill-equipped to handle.

Ethical and regulatory scrutiny

India must carve out critical spheres from intrusive trade disciplines through strong exceptions, protecting public health services and financing. Commitments should not compel unchecked commercialisation of core services, restrict public financing, or undermine price controls. Access to medicines must be safeguarded by resisting TRIPS-plus provisions like data exclusivity or patent extensions that delay affordable generics and biosimilars. For example, India's FTA with the UK dilutes TRIPS flexibilities on compulsory licensing and technology transfer, potentially hindering global access to affordable medicines and medical technologies. India should also retain autonomy to regulate food systems with front-of-pack labels, sugar taxes, marketing limits, and school food regulations. For tobacco and alcohol, policy space for plain packaging, high taxation, outlet density limits, and advertising bans must be shielded from ISDS challenges. Environmental, water, and occupational standards must remain free from punitive investor claims.

In gist, anticipatory regulation for FTAs must be assessed in advance. Equally, India must continue its WTO reform agenda to secure public stockholding for food security through public distribution and special safeguard mechanisms to protect farmers. This shall align trade with national food, health, and social justice goals, ensuring equitable, sustainable outcomes.

As New Delhi advances several high-stakes FTA negotiations, four critical safeguards are essential for short and long-term health protection. First, mandatory stakeholder consultation must engage health and other ministries, FSSAI, NIN, ICMR, civil society, professional associations (e.g., pediatrics, cardiology, endocrinology), patient groups, and state governments early in negotiations, not after legal scrubbing. Second, a time-bound, statutory health impact assessment (HIA) must evaluate trade chapters, such as intellectual property, services, e-commerce, investment, and technical barriers, with evidence-based alternatives and mitigations. Third, given India's lack of a formal ratification process, parliamentary oversight and debate must be institutionalised to address trade pacts' fiscal and health impacts, reinforcing constitutional commitment to democratic governance. Fourth, a dedicated statutory body within the Health Ministry, endowed with adequate funding and authority, should be formed to continuously monitor trade agreements' health implications, informing policymakers and the governance ecosystem to strategically support India's public health goals and global health ambitions in foreign diplomacy.

Collectively, these measures could form the basis for India to constitutionally backed standard practices for trade negotiations, one that garners respect in multilateral settings, shields against opportunistic behaviour by transnational corporations, and helps navigate broader geopolitical pressures. India can be economically ambitious and yet health-wise prudent. Trade is not health's enemy; opacity, power asymmetries, and weak safeguards are.

(The writer is a Public Health fellow at Tampere University, Finland, and a research associate at the Albert Hirschman Democracy Centre at the Geneva Graduate Institute)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

Moult if you must, but soar high

We don't fix children. We reflect their worth...

ROSLIN RICHARD

An eagle at forty must choose: die or endure a painful rebirth. It breaks its beak, tears its claws, and plucks its heavy feathers. After 150 days, it soars again, renewed. This is our metaphor. We are all eagles. Life asks us to shed what no longer serves us and embrace the discomfort of growth.

My own soaring began, unexpectedly, in a math classroom. Back then, numbers were my world—formulas, red pens, neat answers. Until I met John (name changed). A first-generation learner, son of a sugarcane farmer and a tailor, his report card carried single-digit marks. His shoulders slouched, eyes fixed on the desk, handwriting cramped and broken. One afternoon, I caught him tearing up his test paper. "Why?" I asked. "So Appa won't see," he whispered, trembling with shame. At that moment, I knew he didn't need formulas. He needed to be seen.

My own transformation began there. I retrained in child psychology and trauma-informed care. With John, academics paused. At dawn, we began handwriting therapy with ink pots and bamboo pens. "Your 'g' isn't broken—it bends with grace. Leave space between words. You deserve room to breathe." Soon, his letters straightened with pride. When the school needed 200 certificates handwritten for Independence Day, I suggested John. Teachers doubted. But by the seventh day, his script shone with confidence. On Awards Night, when the Head Boy received his certificate, the principal asked, "Who wrote this?" "John, sir." Two hundred heads turned. John stood with ink-stained fingers and a straightened spine. That night, he rewrote not just words, but his story. His marks soon followed—and so did healing.

Later came Sneha (name changed), who hid from algebra behind English classics. "I can take on Shakespeare," she confessed, "but maths silences me." Together, we turned numbers into art—coloured pencils, mind maps, even poetry in multiplication. Months later, she whispered, "Ma'am, maths feels less cruel now." She went on to score above 80% and pursue engineering.

Carl Jung wrote, "The privilege of a lifetime is to become who you truly are." I realised healing isn't about fixing—it's about seeing. We don't mend children by changing them; we reflect their worth until they see it themselves. Years later, in John's office, I noticed three things: his first certificate, framed proudly; his blueprints labelled in flawless letters; and the fountain pen I once gifted him. He smiled. "You taught me words connect souls. Now I connect lives through my work." If you remember only this: the way we talk to children becomes their inner voice. We don't fix children. We reflect their worth. Spread your wings. Moult if you must—but soar above the sky.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RSS must reaffirm its role as a unifying force

Apropos 'RSS at 100: The messaging in Bhagwat's address' (Sept 8), the RSS and its dedication to character formation and nation-building are commendable. Its efforts in the political landscape to bring Prime Minister Narendra Modi to power in 2014 and subsequent state assembly elections have been well received. However, issuing decrees to the ruling dispensation to align with the objectives of the former *sarsangchalaks* does not uphold the spirit of constitution. The RSS should reaffirm its role as a potent unifying force in a diverse and polarised society. It should strive towards preserving our plurality, constitutional values, and instilling confidence among minorities.

Albert Smith, Bengaluru

Conscience's dead

The election of C P Radhakrishnan to the second highest Constitutional post is a foregone conclusion despite I.N.D.I.A. bloc's consistent efforts to lure the neutral parties to get B Sudershan Reddy elected as the vice president. The I.N.D.I.A. candidate's appeal to voters to vote for the country, and not for the party may not yield desired results. Gone are the days when one's conscience ruled. Now, thanks to the rapacity of the members for power and pelf, the conscience is buried deep.

T V Pandarinath Naidu, Kodagu

Data vital

This is with reference to 'Survey a step towards inclusive growth' (Sept 8). Enumeration of sexual minorities and devadasis is in line with the vision of bringing them into mainstream and enabling them to establish their identity. Reliable data can translate into good policy measures, leading to societal acceptance, free from stigma.

Chiraag G V, Shivamogga

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

Hindus are no longer safe while celebrating their festivals in Congress-ruled Karnataka. Miscreants attack Hindus with impunity. This government has reduced Hindus to second-class citizens in their own land.

R Ashoka, Karnataka LoP and BJP MLA

Politics is essentially about the management of fear, an economy of fear, continually adjusting the level of fear to produce the right level of affect in the citizenry.

Simon Critchley

TO BE PRECISE

Taxation can't be an emotional decision: FM

IN PERSPECTIVE

Partition and a few flawed lessons

The NCERT's module on partition trades truth for propaganda. Karnataka's schools don't need it

JANAKI NAIR

We live in an age when school children may be learning more from WhatsApp forwards and Instagram posts than their history textbooks. In Indiranagar, Bengaluru, some may even learn a 'potted history' from the 'Freedom Wall', a wall art project funded by the area's BJP MLA, and executed in 58 images all along the students' route to school. The wall, like so much else in our public life, speaks as much about what it excludes as what it chooses to include. Hence, V D Savarkar – who took little part in the Indian Freedom Movement – is chosen over Tipu Sultan – who died fighting the British on the battlefield.

All governments lay their heavy hand on the history textbook, because it is tied to an examination system that values 'instant recall', rather than critical and compassionate thinking. The Union government, which has been in the saddle for 11 years, has of late gone into overdrive in rewriting the history textbooks. Thus, the Std 8 textbook has taken care to insert A Note on History's Darker Periods ahead of its discussion of the Sultanate and Mughal Period, the Marathas, and the colonial period. It tells the student that 'it would be wrong to hold anyone today responsible', but 'understanding the historical origin of cruel violence, abusive misrule or misplaced ambitions of power is the best way to heal the past and build a future where, hopefully, they will have no place.'

Now, NCERT has added a module entitled 'Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' in keeping with the Prime Minister's announcement a few years ago that it would be August 14. No marks for guessing that it is Pakistan's Independence Day. But perhaps most don't know that the actual partition map was drawn up only on August 17, and violence began and continued for many months thereafter.

Should such a module be introduced in Karnataka's schools? Karnataka was one of the few states that had appointed a State Education Policy Commission to rethink the New Education Policy. It has, among other things, recommended a meaningful incorporation of constitutional values, compassion, and sensitivity as ethical learning outcomes.

So imagine the shock when a circular was issued a few days ago asking schools to teach the partition module: worse, schools were enjoined to show proof of compliance by uploading reports with photographs. Fortunately, the circular has been withdrawn.

Designed to inflame

Why is this module a problem? There is no doubt that Indian schoolchildren need to learn how to deal with conflictual pasts. But how does one produce compassion and empathy among students rather than a strident call for revenge? The partition module appears intended not to inform, but to inflame. It fails to acknowledge at least four decades of research that has detailed the difference between the experiences of partition in the east and in the west. We have learned from such research that the violence was not between one set of victims and one set of perpetrators. Victims could become perpetrators, and perpetrators could become victims.

But the module carefully avoids such uncomfortable 'truths'. The newspaper cuttings included as historical proof are of violence against Hindus alone. Feminist historians who have talked of women being killed by their own families, for fear of 'dishonour', are barely mentioned. The harrowing experience of women, especially following the Abducted Person (Recovery and Restoration Act of 1949) in both India and Pakistan, has been conveniently ignored. The most important goal of this module is to malign the Congress, for 'willingly hand[ing] over a vast part of the country permanently outside the national fold – along with tens of crores of its citizens – without even their consent' or a war. And the Congress (mistakenly) 'limited their discourse to a binary of "native vs. foreign"' forgetting the historical 'realities' (presumably the more important enemy within, so useful to the current Union government).

There is silence on the Hindu Mahasabha's role. Instead, there is a most tendentious suggestion that 'Even though a separate country was created for Muslims, about 3.5 crores Muslims did not shift and continued to stay in India. Pakistan was demanded and created as a homeland for all Indian Muslims. The entire calculation, political or territorial, was based on that assumption.'

Students are then asked to remember that 'the actual forces that drive human behaviour [are] not any lofty ideals but 'self-interest, greed, fear, hatred, anger, vengeance, etc.' Karnataka's government schools have, for now, been saved from such hateful propaganda. That it was so easily slipped in is still sobering.

(The writer, a retired professor of History at the Centre for Historical Studies, JNU, has served as Member, Advisory Committee, State Education Policy)

'Nitish Kumar is no longer the main opponent...This election will write a new script'

RJD MP **Manoj K Jha**
in conversation with
Shemin Joy

THE DEEP TAKE

The two-week-long 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' concluded on September 1 with the I.N.D.I.A. bloc all set to enter another phase of campaigning ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections. The RJD and its allies now plan to reach out to districts that the 'yatra' led by Rahul Gandhi and Tejashwi Yadav could not cover. RJD Senior MP Manoj K Jha speaks here about the campaign against vote chori *and the latest political developments in Bihar. Excerpts:*

● What has the 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' achieved?

Initially, the idea of the 'yatra' was conceived by Tejashwi Yadav and Rahul Gandhi, and other 'Mahagathbandhan' parties joined in. But I believe that the authorship or the impact of the *yatra* has grown beyond Rahul *ji* or Tejashwi *ji*. People have inculcated the message of the *yatra*. They are more vigilant, and they know what it means if names are deleted from electoral rolls. They know what transparency means in the electoral process. It is about how their vote is used to form a government of their choice. The *yatra* has brought to the fore jobs, better healthcare, and improved social security under the 'vote *chori*' campaign.

● Hasn't the issue of 'vote chori' eclipsed issues like joblessness, debt incurred by households etc.?

There is a concept called sociological framing. You frame a slogan, and that slogan itself is broad enough to include many other important concerns. In fact, before this *yatra*, Tejashwi Yadav criss-crossed the state highlighting the issues of jobs, health, and social security. The 'vote *chor, gaddi chod*' (vote thief, leave the throne) slogan encompasses all these. If my vote, or my mother's vote, is deleted, then our chance to find a solution to the issues gets defeated. That is how a Bihari thinks now.

● This 'yatra' ended on September 1. What next?

Even the BJP supporters are talking about the issues we raised. Everyone sees that the Election Commission's credibility has suffered. This *yatra* has ended, but its message will reverberate; its spirit will continue. Tejashwi *ji* will soon start going to those districts which were not covered this time. Then there would be a combined programme of all alliance partners.

● How will the Bihar election outcome impact national politics?

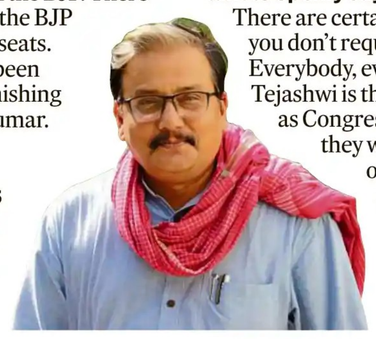
The BJP has reached out to the migrants, but it has had limited impact. Then came the SIR. The Election Commission appeared to suggest that 20% of Bihari voters are migrants and they could have voted elsewhere. We are fighting a machine, not just a party. Even then, we performed well in the 2020 Assembly elections. We expect an even greater impact in the 2025 elections.

● Last time, Congress' performance was not up to the mark. What will be your criteria for seat sharing?

All parties agree that the main factor will be winnability as well as ensuring social diversity. In 2024, BJP went with *abki baar, chaar sau paar* (this time, 400-plus seats). But they were reduced to 240. It tells you a lot about the Indian electorate. Five years have passed since the last Assembly elections. This election will write a new script.

● Do you still consider Nitish Kumar as your prime opponent, or is it the BJP now?

Nitish *ji* is no longer the prime opponent. He is not the Nitish *ji* we knew. We don't know whether he is aware of what is being said in his name. Many know it but won't talk about it. Several people say that Bihar is being run from the Home Minister Amit Shah's office in New Delhi. Nitish *ji*'s core supporters are upset that his image has taken a beating. His so-called main supporters are collaborating with the BJP. There is a fear in JD(U) that the BJP would take over their seats. The BJP has literally been instrumental in diminishing the image of Nitish Kumar.



● Will you accept if Nitish Kumar returns to I.N.D.I.A. bloc?

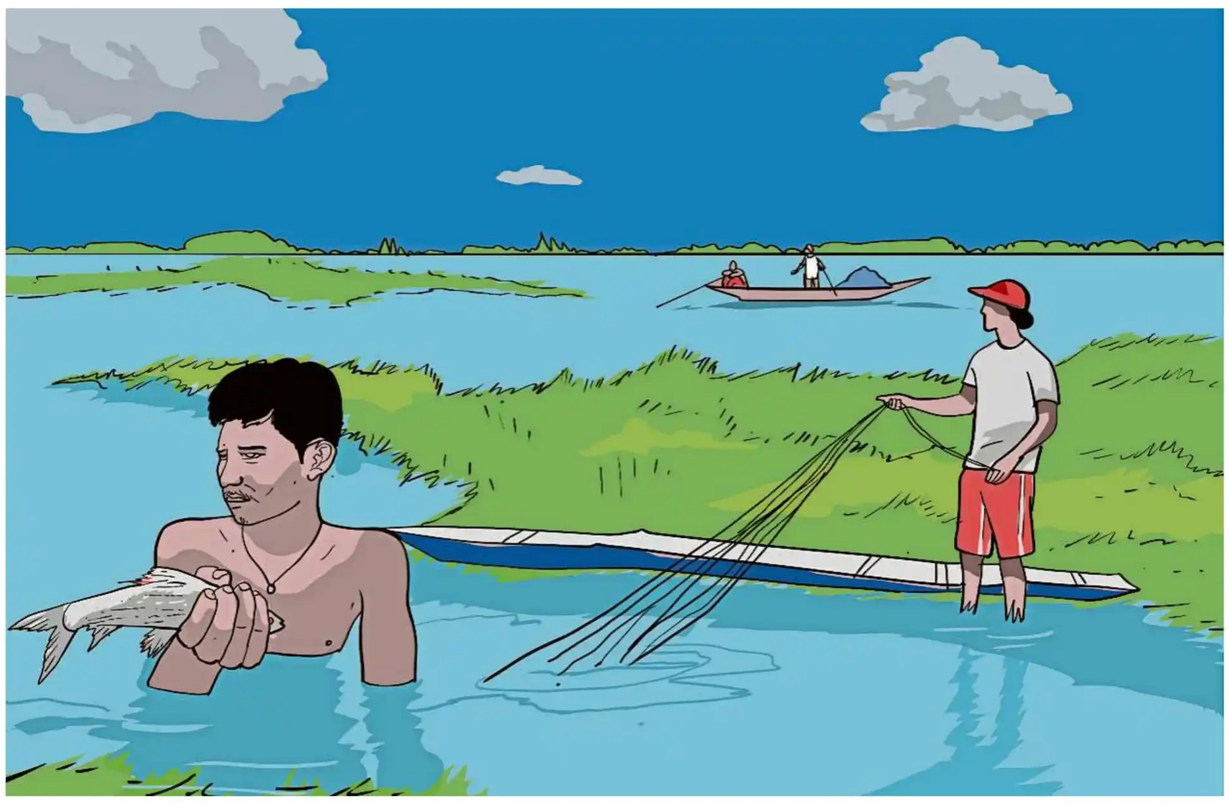
When Nitish *ji* joined us in 2022, he came to us telling us that the BJP is out to finish the JD(U). Tejashwi ji was reluctant and told Nitish that he would give outside support. As Nitish *ji* was insistent, he joined the government on two conditions: a free hand in addressing the issue of jobs and conducting a caste survey. Both were completed. But Nitish changed his mind later, maybe due to pressure from the BJP.

● Tejashwi Yadav has made it clear that he is the chief ministerial face. But some alliance partners are reluctant to openly say so. Why?

There are certain things for which you don't require rocket science. Everybody, even a child, knows Tejashwi is the CM face. As far as Congress is concerned, they will choose their own timing to spell it out. But the fact is that the one who is in charge of the narrative in Bihar is Tejashwi Yadav.

Soon, many of Earth's marine ecosystems could be fundamentally and forever altered if pressures like climate change, overfishing, and coastal development continue unabated

DELGER ERDENESANAA



DH ILLUSTRATION: DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

Humans are altering the seas

Working from a dock on St Helena Island, South Carolina, on a sweltering day this summer, Ed Atkins pulled in a 5-foot cast net from the water and dumped out a few glossy white shrimp from the salt marsh.

Atkins, a Gullah Geechee fisherman, runs a shop nearby that sells live bait to anglers. "My father and my mother opened that shop back in 1957," he said. "When they passed, they made sure I tapped into it and keep it going. I've been doing it myself now for 40 years."

These marshes, which underpin Atkins' way of life, are where the line between land and sea blurs. They provide a crucial nursery habitat for many marine species, including commercial and recreational fisheries.

But these vast, seemingly timeless seascapes have become some of the world's most vulnerable marine habitats, according to a new study in the journal *Science* that adds up and maps the ways human activity is profoundly reshaping oceans and coastlines around the world.

Soon, many of Earth's marine ecosystems could be fundamentally and forever altered if pressures like climate change, overfishing, ocean acidification and coastal development continue unabated, according to the authors.

It's "death by a thousand cuts," said Ben Halpern, a marine biologist and ecologist at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and one of the authors of the new study. "It's going to be a less rich community of species. And it may not be something we recognise."

Among the other ecosystems at high risk are sea grass meadows, rocky intertidal zones and mangrove forests. These parts of the ocean, near shore, are the ones people most depend on. They provide crucial, natural defences against storm damage. And the vast majority of commercial and recreational fishing, which together support more than two million jobs in the United States alone, takes place in shallow coastal waters.

There's also an intangible cultural richness at stake. The culture of Gullah Geechee people like Atkins, a community descended from enslaved West Africans forced to work the rice and cotton plantations of the Southeast coast, for example, is inextricably linked to fishing and the seashore.

"We have our own language, we have our own food ways, we have our own ecological system here," said Marquetta Goodwine, the elected head of the Gullah Geechee people and a leader in efforts to protect and restore the coastline. That distinctive culture, she said, depends on things like the oyster beds, the native grasses and the maritime forests that characterise the seashore and the scores of barrier islands here, collectively known as the Sea Islands.

"You don't have that, you don't have a Sea Island," said Goodwine, who also goes by Queen Quet. "You don't have a Sea Island, you don't have Gullah Geechee culture."

The new study tries to measure just how much different human-caused pressures are squeezing, shifting and transforming coastal and marine habitats.

The research began in the early 2000s, when widespread coral bleaching was raising alarm among marine scientists. In response, Halpern and his colleagues set out to map what parts of the ocean were healthiest and least affected by humans, and, conversely, which parts were the most affected.

The inherent challenge was comparing different marine habitats, from coral reefs to the deep ocean floor, and their responses to different human-caused pressures, like fishing and rising temperatures, all on a common scale. They came up with what researchers call an impact score that's based on a formula incorporating the size of each habitat, the intensities of the various pressures on that habitat, and the vulnerabilities of each habitat to each form of pressure.

Under the current trajectory, the study found, by the middle of the century about 3% of the total global ocean is at risk of changing beyond recognition. In the near-shore ocean that most people are more familiar with, the number rises to more than 12%.

That future will look different in different regions. Tropical and polar seas are expected to face more pronounced effects than temperate, midlatitude ones. Human pressures are expected to increase faster in offshore zones, but coastal waters will continue to experience the most serious effects, the researchers forecast. There are also countries that are considered more vulnerable because they depend more heavily on resources from the ocean: Togo, Ghana and Sri Lanka top the list in the study.

Across the whole ocean, scientists generally agree that many places will look ecologically poorer, with less biodiversity, Halpern said. That's mainly because the number of species resilient to climate change and other human pressures are simply far fewer than the number of more vulnerable species.

The study found that the biggest pressures, both now and in the future, are ocean warming and overfishing. But the researchers most likely underestimated the effects of fishing, they wrote, because their model assumes that fishing activity will hold steady rather than increase. They also focused only on the species targeted by fishing fleets and did not include by catch or habitat destruction from bottom trawling.

The effects of some other human activities aren't well represented either, including seabed drilling and mining, which are expanding quickly. The vast majority of new oil and gas projects are now in the ocean rather than on land, according to tracking by Global Energy Monitor. The study also didn't include marine traffic or noise pollution, which can come from a wide variety of human activities. Another limitation of the *Science* study is the fact that the researchers simply added together the pressures from human activities in a linear way to arrive at their estimate of cumulative effects. In reality, those effects might add up to more than the sum of their parts.

"Some of these activities, they might be synergistic, they might be doubling," said Mike Elliott, a marine biologist and emeritus professor at the University of Hull in England who was not involved in the study. "And some might be antagonistic, might be cancelling."

Even so, Elliott said he agreed with the broad conclusions of the new study. Scientists could argue about whether the cumulative effects of human activities will double or triple, he said, "but it will be more, because we're doing more in the sea."

"If we wait until we've got perfect data," he added, "we'll never do anything."

One of the benefits of such studies is that they can help to inform better ocean planning and management, including for initiatives like 30x30, the global effort to protect 30% of the world's land and seas by 2030.

In South Carolina, one place that's already been set aside is the ACE Basin, a 350,000-acre largely undeveloped wetland on the state's southern coast named for the Ashepoo, Combahee and Edisto rivers, which thread through it.

On a recent visit, in one tucked-away corner of the marsh, something emerged from the mud at low tide: a wall built with concrete blocks now nearly hidden by thousands of shells. They're called oyster castles, and they look like something out of a storybook about mermaids. The blocks were placed by volunteers from the Boeing assembly plant in nearby Charleston. The effort was organised by The Nature Conservancy and the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources as part of a growing string of living shoreline projects, which aim to stabilise the coast using natural materials like shells and native vegetation, in South Carolina and beyond.

These oyster castles are meant to protect the landscapes behind them from erosion, sea level rise and storm surges. Scientists from The Nature Conservancy have been experimenting with different methods for years and are beginning to see results. Behind the castles in the basin, which allow water to deposit sediment, mud had piled up significantly higher than elsewhere. And in the mud, marsh grass has taken root and grown tall.

"We've been testing and piloting things for so long, and now is the time to scale it up," said Elizabeth Fly, director of resilience and ocean conservation at The Nature Conservancy's South Carolina chapter.

The New York Times

Mizoram's beggary ban: Reform or denial?

ABIGAIL CHINZAH

In late August, the Mizoram Assembly enacted the Prohibition of Beggary Act, which bans public begging while promising assistance and rehabilitation for those forced into it. The law establishes a relief board and receiving centres where people caught begging will be held briefly (up to a day) before being "rehabilitated" or returned to their home communities. Officials argue that the ban is necessary, as new rail links (like Sairang–Sihhmui) could attract more beggars from outside the state. Chief Minister Lalduhawma said the aim is to ensure dignity, not to criminalise poverty, adding that NGOs and church groups would partner with the government to provide training and support.

Opposition leader Lalchandama Ralte of the Mizo National Front, along with several commentators, contended that a blanket ban conflicts with Mizoram's tradition of Christian compassion. They argue that prohibition alone is no solution and call instead for community-based charity. Critics note that rounding up beggars risks reviving a colonial-era approach, where people were confined for lack of work. If detention and deportation are the only measures, they warn, migrants and the destitute could be targeted simply for being poor.

India's history of anti-beggary laws shows why such concerns persist. Colonial-era acts such as the 1959 Bombay Beggary Act granted police sweeping powers to arrest "vagrants" and beggars, effectively criminalising homelessness. These laws often punished people for poverty: anyone without a job or home, risked being sent to jail or a "beggar's home." Over time, courts have questioned this approach. In 2018, for instance, the Delhi High Court struck down anti-beggary rules, observing that for the poorest, begging is often a last resort and punishing it is the "wrong approach."

The right to life and dignity implies a right to survive, and begging can be seen as a plea for help, implicating free speech and livelihood rights. Criminalising it raises constitutional concerns: it infringes upon the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21, which courts have interpreted to include the right to live with dignity. Begging, as soliciting alms, also falls within the ambit of free speech under Article 19(1)(a). Detaining individuals for begging restricts their freedom of movement [Article 19(1)(d)] and right to livelihood [Article 19(1)(g)], while doing so without charge violates personal liberty. Rights advocates therefore argue that punitive beggary laws punish necessity rather than crime.

The Mizoram government insists the law focuses on rehabilitation, not punishment, and points to programmes that have shown results. In Rajasthan, for example, "Project BHOR" provides vocational training to street beggars and helps with job placement. Reports suggest that dozens have secured formal jobs through this scheme. However, social policy researchers caution that vocational training alone rarely lifts people out of poverty.

A recent empirical study in Khulna City Corporation, Bangladesh, assessed the impact of a local beggar rehabilitation programme. Using a non-equivalent group design with instrumental variable regression, it sampled 385 individuals including 59 beneficiaries of the scheme and 326 non-beneficiaries. After months of training, participants' incomes, food security and well-being were no better than those who did not receive help. The study concluded that the programme was a "policy failure."

Such findings suggest that if Mizoram's scheme is to succeed, it must go beyond short courses with no follow-up. Certificates will not guarantee jobs, especially when local economies cannot absorb new workers. Real progress will require sustained investment in education, healthcare and jobs in poor communities, making it possible for people to leave street life behind. Without this, a relief centre risks becoming a mere holding pen.

Around high-profile events, officials have often "beautified" cities by removing the homeless from view, raising fears that Mizoram's ban may be more about appearances than solutions.

Political leaders in Mizoram insist this time will be different. They argue that new livelihood schemes and church-led charities will truly integrate the poorest, while supporters maintain that formal programmes are necessary because NGOs and voluntary efforts alone cannot solve the problem. They frame the ban as an attempt to build "long-term support systems" through livelihoods rather than policing.

Mizoram's ban will ultimately be judged by its human impact.

(The writer is a PhD scholar at the Department of Political Science, St Joseph's University, Bengaluru)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: SEPTEMBER 1975

Govt bans sale of pawned goods in State

Bangalore, September 8
An Ordinance prohibiting the sale of pledged articles by pawnbrokers and moneylenders for a period of three months was promulgated by the Karnataka Governor today. It is aimed at meeting an urgent situation stated to have been created by pawnbrokers who "indiscriminately sell the pledged articles" to circumvent the Karnataka Debt Relief Bill which prohibits the sale of pledged articles for a period of two years. The Bill is awaiting the President's assent.

25 YEARS AGO: SEPTEMBER 2000

Central forces may be enlisted only if necessary: MK

Chennai, Sept 8
Chief Minister M Karunanidhi said here today that Tamil Nadu and Karnataka would consider approaching the Centre for paramilitary forces to nab brigand Veerappan only if such a need arose. He was talking to reporters at the Chennai airport upon his return from Bangalore where he held talks with his Karnataka counterpart S M Krishna about measures to secure the release of Kannada icon Rajkumar and three others being held hostage by Veerappan for over 40 days now.

OASIS | SUDHA UMASHANKER

Handle everything with care

One of the many pieces of advice I have given my children in their dealings with people is to never harm anyone and to always leave people as good as they found them. If by chance they were thrown into the company of unethical and wicked people, I cautioned them to stay away by all means.

Recently I realised that, like leaving people as good as we found them, the same applies to the homes of others that we may visit or rent, hotel rooms, cinema halls or public transport that we use. Property that belongs to others must be handled with care and consciousness. After all, even inanimate things have an energy of their own, as we sometimes discover to our surprise. I have had friends recount tales of their four- or two-wheelers that never ever stalled or let them down. During festivals like Vijaya Dashami and Ayudha Pooja, don't we place books and tools of the trade, after cleaning, at the altar and ask God to bless and crown our efforts with success as we use them?

Respect for public property or spaces that belong to others does not come easily to many. I came to know a few days ago that commuters wanting to get somewhere in a hurry use umbrella handles and other implements to prevent our brand-new Metro doors from closing. Vandalising and giving vent to our anger by breaking or disfiguring with graffiti monuments, temple walls, heritage buildings and such like is simply unforgivable, as the damage could be permanent.

When a tenant of my father's vacated after a long tenancy, I was moved to tears because they had taken such good care of the house and treated it like they would their own. There were others who also left us in pain for the damage they caused by gross misuse and neglect while they occupied the space.

Mindless misdemeanours hurt the Earth Mother, who in her bounty gave us the raw material for countless things; pain the people who own them or crafted them; and ultimately attract the disapproval of the Supreme.

In that momentary delusion that we can reduce inanimate objects to nothing, let us not forget the Creator who gave us all we have. Hurting His creations is akin to hurting Him.

Maha 'poll fraud': Trai rejects Cong's charges of SMS censorship

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Dismissing Congress' charge that the Trai had blocked its attempt to send messages about the 2024 Maharashtra Assembly elections being "stolen", the telecom regulator on Monday said that it has no role in the acceptance or rejection of such individual SMS campaigns.

"Trai categorically denies any role in the acceptance or rejection of such individual SMS campaigns. The approval or rejection of SMS message templates is carried out by the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), " the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) said in a statement.

"Trai is not involved in the acceptance or rejection of individual SMS campaigns. These functions are carried out by TSPs in accordance with the framework prescribed under TCCCPR, (Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations), 2018," the statement further added.

Without naming Congress, the Trai said no role in the specific instance reported in the media.

Trai in a post on X also said that the application was submitted to one of the service providers, who rejected it.

The Congress on Sunday claimed that the Trai rejected its application for sending out SMSes to its Maharashtra cadre with the link of a documentary on how Maharashtra Assembly elections were allegedly "stolen" on the grounds that it is "content related to protest".

VP poll: BJD & BRS to abstain; 769MPs expected to vote

NDA, Oppn camps hold training sessions for members

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The seven-member BJD, four-member BRS and and one Akali Dali member will abstain from voting in the vice presidential election on Tuesday, even as both the ruling NDA and the Opposition made last-minute efforts to secure their votes and attract support from across the aisle.

With this, only 769 of the total 781 MPs in the electoral college will vote in the contest between Maharashtra Governor C Radhakrishnan, fielded by the NDA, and the Opposition's candidate, former Supreme Court judge Justice B Sudershan Reddy.

The election was necessitated by the surprise resignation of Jagdeep Dhankhar, who cited health reasons on the first day of the Monsoon Session on July 21. Unofficial accounts suggest that a deteriorating relationship between him and the government may have prompted the unprecedented step.

Ending speculation, both the BJD and BRS announced their intention to abstain from the elections, saying that both candidates were linked to coalitions they do not belong to.

BJD Rajya Sabha floor leader Sasmit Patra told reporters, "The BJD remains equidistant from both the NDA and I.N.D.I.A. alliances. Our focus is on the development and welfare of Odisha and its 4.5 crore people."

Opposition leaders during a meeting of party MPs at Central Hall of Parliament in New Delhi. PTI

BRS Working President KT Rama Rao said, "Both the Congress and BJP are harassing Telangana's farmers by failing to supply sufficient urea. That's why the BRS has decided not to participate in the elections — on behalf of 71 lakh Telangana farmers. If the NOTA option were available, we would have used it. Since it is not, we are abstaining."

If all 769 MPs, excluding the 11 from BJD and BRS, vote along party lines, Radhakrishnan is expected to secure 439 votes, including 11 from the YSR Congress, while Justice Reddy may receive 324. The voting preferences of seven MPs are not known.

All eyes on Sena (UBT)

Sources indicate that all eyes are on Shiv Sena (UBT), as some of its MPs are of the view that they should opt out of the I.N.D.I.A. bloc and join hands with the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena. Senior ministers have also reportedly reached out to some Opposition MPs.

On the other hand, sources said, the Opposition is hopeful that some MPs from the TDP and YSR Congress may back Justice Reddy, as he is a Telugu.

Shiv Sena floor leader Shrikant Shinde told reporters, "Everyone makes appeals during elections. You will see tomorrow, the numbers will exceed the total strength of NDA members."

The BJP criticised Justice Reddy for meeting RJD chief Lalu Prasad, with senior MP Ravi Shankar Prasad saying that the Opposition candidate had urged MPs to vote for him to "save the soul of the nation", yet met someone convicted in the fodder scam.

Throughout the day, both camps held training sessions for their MPs on how to vote, as the vice presidential election follows a preferential mode. MPs from the TDP, Sena (UBT) and JD(U) also held separate meetings.

(With inputs from SNV Sudhir in Hyderabad)

Don't use court for political feud: SC nixes BJP's plea against Revanth

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Monday said it would not allow the court to become a platform for political battles, and that a politician should have a strong skin to bear criticism from opponents.

A bench led by Chief Justice of India B R Gavai also rejected a Telangana BJP plea against an order passed by the Telangana High Court, which had quashed a defamation case against Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy.

The case concerned a speech by the CM during the 2024 Lok Sabha poll campaign, alleging that the BJP would end reservation in jobs and education.

Taking up a challenge to the HC's order, the bench, also comprising Justices K Vinod Chandran and Atul S Chandurkar, told senior advocate Ranjit Kumar, representing the petitioner, that the court was not keen to entertain the petition.

As Kumar asked the court to hear his arguments, the CJI noted he had said many times that courts would not be allowed to become a platform for political battles.

Senior advocate A M Singhvi, representing Revanth, said there would be no political discourse if this were defamation.

"If you are a politician, you should have a strong skin to bear all this," the bench said. The court finally dismissed the Telangana BJP's plea.

On August 1, Justice K Lakshman of the Telangana HC quashed a defamation case against Revanth based on a complaint filed by Telangana BJP general secretary Kasam Venkateshwarlu concerning the CM's remarks during a Lok Sabha election campaign rally.

The complaint alleged that Reddy "connived" with the Telangana Congress to develop a fake and dubious political narrative that the BJP would end reservations if voted to power.

In August last year, a trial court said a prima facie case was made against the chief minister for the alleged offence of defamation.

Reddy moved the HC against the trial court order, arguing that the allegations in the complaint did not make a prima facie case against him.

BJP deploys ministers to guide MPs ahead of vote

Move to ensure precision in high-stakes election

AMRITA MADHUKALYA
NEW DELHI, DHNS

In the run-up to the vice-presidential elections, the BJP has left no stone unturned to secure the victory of NDA candidate CP Radhakrishnan. To tighten its ranks, the party's top brass has divided all NDA MPs into groups, each led by a Union minister. The MPs have been instructed to report to their respective group leader's residence by 8 am on Tuesday, ahead of polling at 10 am.

Voting will take place at Vasudha Hall in Parliament House, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi expected to be the first to cast his ballot. Following the vote, Modi will travel to flood-hit areas in Punjab and Himachal Pradesh to assess the situation.

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has been assigned responsibility for MPs from Odisha, West Bengal and Andamans, while Union Consumer Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi will guide all NDA MPs from South India. Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has been tasked with coordinating MPs from Uttar Pradesh, and Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Arjun Ram Meghwal will manage those from Rajasthan.

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has the responsibility of MPs from Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, while Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju will be in charge of lawmakers from the Northeast.

BJP leaders said that during the two-day workshop held on Sunday, a mock drill of the election process was also conducted to ensure there were no errors. Shiv Sena (Eknath Shinde) leader Srikanth Shinde will serve as the NDA's polling agent, while Union Ministers Rammohan Naidu and Kiren Rijiju will be the counting agents.

In his address to the NDA MPs on Monday, PM Modi asked MPs not to make any mistakes during voting, since it was a high-stakes election.

Social media presence

At the two-day workshop, BJP leaders reviewed MPs' social media activity from January to August, with Modi in attendance. Based on posting frequency, MPs were classified as "inactive" (no posts in a month), "barely active" (less than 60 posts), or "active" (over 60 posts). Those falling short were asked to step up their online presence.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets former PM and JD(S) chief H D Deve Gowda during the NDA lawmakers meeting, a day before the vice presidential election, in New Delhi. PTI

Highlight GST cuts, push swadeshi goods: Modi to MPs

NEW DELHI, DHNS

In his address to fellow MPs from NDA parties on Monday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged lawmakers to speak to their constituents about the newly announced GST reforms and encourage them to choose swadeshi, or domestic, products.

The PM was speaking at a two-day workshop, Sansad Karyashala, organised for BJP MPs, which was also attended by MPs from other NDA allies.

Calling on MPs to initiate a movement promoting swadeshi goods, Modi instructed them to organise fairs and melas in their constituencies during the festive season from Navratri to Diwali. "Garv se kaho yeh swadeshi hai (Declare proudly that this is a domestic product)," he was quoted as saying by one of the attending lawmakers.

Modi urged lawmakers to go to their respective constituencies and speak about each product for which the GST has been reduced. An MP from South India said the PM asked them to focus on items that offer immediate, everyday benefits.

"Whether it's dairy products like ghee and butter, or toiletries such as soap and shampoo, these are essentials that impact the common man daily. We were asked to inform voters about the revised prices. Even cars will now be cheaper," the MP said.

On Sunday, Modi, who attended the workshop seated in the last row, addressed only BJP MPs. He stressed the importance of monthly gatherings over food and urged MPs to ensure that rural voters don't all prey to online scams.

Tiffin meetings

"During the workshop, the PM told us to identify local issues by holding tiffin meetings with our people," said an MP from Assam.

The PM also asked lawmakers to identify problems stemming from the government's schemes and development works, and if people have any problems accessing these schemes.

Modi also asked that MPs take the Swachhata Abhiyan forward. "He gave us the example of Singapore and said that if the community comes together, it can work wonders," the MP said.

Oppn hails SC order to accept Aadhaar as 12th document in Bihar electoral revision

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Opposition on Monday hailed the Supreme Court order to accept the Aadhaar card as the 12th document in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, calling it a "big win" for democracy while insisting that the Election Commission must be "named and shamed for the brazen non-compliance" with the earlier directive.

Congress General Secretary (Communications) Jairam Ramesh said it is a "mess of the EC's own making" and no one other than "G2 (Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah)" asked for an SIR this close to the election.

"No one other than G2 asked for it to be conducted so ineptly that the Supreme Court has had to intervene to ensure basic checks and balances. Make no mistake, we are fighting an election against the ruling regime and despite the EC. This CEC and the institution he heads shall not be forgiven by history," he posted on 'X'.

He said, "The Election Commission must be named and shamed for its brazen non-compliance with the Supreme Court's directive to accept Aadhaar as proof of identity. Today, once again, for the third time, the Supreme Court reiterated the point that Aadhar must be accepted as a valid ID to register voters."

He said "repeated obstacles" were being created by the EC to "deliberately inconvenience" the registration of legitimate voters, and it has declined to accept Aadhaar, and even sent notices to officials to only accept the documents it has prescribed.

Trinamool Congress Rajya Sabha Deputy Leader Sagarika Ghose called it a "big win" for the opposition and democracy.

Senior RJD MP Manoj K Jha said, "Thank you, everyone from the legal voices in the courtroom to members of RJD and other parties and 'reporters' who have struggled to ensure that the 'Exclusion' cannot be the premise under ' fictional cover'....by EC. Thanks to the highest court of the land."

Activist Yogendra Yadav, who was one of the petitioners, said, "This single decision has safeguarded the voting rights of millions of people, not only in Bihar but across the entire country."

Heinous terrorist attack: PM Modi on Jerusalem attack

NEW DELHI, PTI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday condemned the terrorist attack on innocent civilians in Jerusalem and said India stands firm in its policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism.

Palestinian attackers opened fire at a bus stop at a busy intersection in north Jerusalem on Monday, killing six people and injuring another 12, media reports said, citing Israeli police, emergency rescue services and local hospitals.

"Strongly condemn the heinous terrorist attack on innocent civilians in Jerusalem today. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims and wish a speedy recovery to those injured," Modi said.

Maratha vs OBC reservation issue going the court way

MRITYUNJAY BOSE
MUMBAI, DHNS

The vexed Maratha-vs-Other Backward Class (OBC) reservation issue may land in courts within a few days, with both sides reportedly at different stages of what could be a major legal battle.

OBC leaders are holding a series of meetings across Maharashtra, and are expected to take legal steps in a few days.

On the other hand, the Maratha-community organisation Rashtriya Chhava Sanghatan (RCS) has filed a caveat in the Supreme Court and the Bombay High Court's Mumbai and Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar benches seeking a hearing.

The OBC community is rattled after Maharashtra's BJP-led Maha Yuti government decided to implement the Hyderabad Gazetteer, which lists Marathas as Kunbis in the Marathwada region. The move will enable Marathas to seek reservation under the 27% OBC quota.

"We are studying various aspects of the GR [government resolution]... We will take a decision and move court in the next three-four days," said Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Protection Minister and NCP leader Chhagan Bhujbal.

"We don't want the OBC quota disturbed," added the veteran OBC leader.

Bhujbal will also hold discussions within the Revenue Minister Chandrashekhar Bawankule-headed Cabinet subcommittee for expediting socio-economic and educational welfare measures for OBCs, of which he is a member.

On the other hand, Congress Legislature Party leader Vijay Wadettiwar is meeting OBC leaders across the state.

Activist's ultimatum

On the other hand, Maratha reservation agitation leader Manoj Jarange-Patil was discharged from the hospital in Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar, where he was recuperating after the hunger strike.

Giving reassurances that he would continue to take up the Maratha community's cause, he said: "We believe the government will act on the GR. If they listen to someone from Yeola (Bhujbal) and anything goes wrong, we will also challenge the 1994 GR that gave our reservation to others."

MEGA COLLABORATION

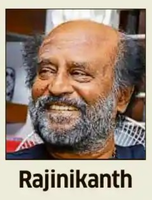
Kamal, Rajini to reunite on screen after 46 yrs

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

After 46 years, two legends of Indian cinema—Kamal Haasan and Rajinikanth—will reunite on the silver screen for a Tamil movie likely to be directed by new-age filmmaker Lokesh Kanagaraj.

"We will come together," Kamal Haasan said at the SIMA award ceremony in Dubai on Sunday night, confirming the speculation doing the rounds that he and his friend of 50 years, Rajinikanth, will act in a movie together.

Kamal Haasan



Rajinikanth

Though the two actors had been planning to do a film together, the project never took off.

Speaking about coming together with Rajinikanth, Kamal Haasan said both were united long ago but decided to chart their own course as filmmakers and producers were splitting a biscuit and giving them half each.

"We wanted one biscuit each. We enjoyed that one biscuit, and we have now come to a decision that half a biscuit is enough. We are happy. We will come together," Kamal Haasan said. "It may be big news from the business angle, but the decision to come together was taken long back. We always wanted to produce each other's films, but it never happened," he added.

Kamal and Rajinikanth have been friends ever since they first met on the sets of *Apoorva Raagangal*, the debut film of the Tamil superstar. After appearing together in over a dozen films, the two decided not to act together in 1979.

Although further details of the collaboration have not been released yet, it is widely believed that Kanagaraj will direct the movie.

Back-to-back police assault charges rattle Kerala govt

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

The CPM-led LDF government in Kerala is on the defensive following back-to-back allegations of police assault, that too from pro-CPM activists.

Video footage of Youth Congress leader V S Sujith being roughed up at the Kunnamkulam Police Station in the Thrissur district in 2023 appeared to open a Pandora's box.

Activists from the CPM's youth wing, the DYFI, and students' outfit, the SFI, were among those who have already levelled allegations of police assault as well as inaction on their pleas to take action against "errant" officers, some of wom were even promoted after adverse reports against them were suppressed.

The Congress-led UDF in the Opposition has launched a strong protest against the government over the issue. Youth Congress workers' protests at the Secretariat on Monday turned violent.

Opposition leader V D Satheesan questioned the silence of Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, who also holds the Home portfolio, on the issue.

Police personnel detain a Youth Congress activist during a protest in Thiruvananthapuram on Monday, demanding the dismissal of policemen accused of assaulting one of their leaders while in custody two years ago. PTI

Satheesan alleged that Vijayan had lost control over the police department. He also reiterated the demand to dismiss the four police officials placed under suspension for the brutal assault on Sujith. The Youth Congress leader obtained the CCTV footage of the police station through an RTI application.

Allegations galore

Amidst the row, CCTV footage of a police official at Peechi in Thrissur repeatedly slapping and assaulting a hotel manager and staff in 2023 emerged. The hotel's owner, K P Ouseph, also obtained the footage through an RTI application. It was alleged that then-sub-inspector P M Ratheesh assaulted the hotel staff following a fake complaint, and that the hotel owner was made to pay a bribe of Rs 5 lakh. After the CCTV footage emerged, action was initiated against Ratheesh, now serving as a circle inspector.

Causing more embarrassment to the CPM regime, a former SFI leader and a DYFI activist from the Pathanamthitta district also levelled police-assault allegations.

Several devotees injured in Agra temple wall collapse

LUCKNOW, DHNS : Several devotees were injured after the wall of the famous Balkeshwar Temple in Agra collapsed on Monday evening, with reports saying some even fell in the swollen Yamuna river.

One of the walls of the 118-year-old temple is said to have trapped the devotees under its debris when it collapsed.

Officials, however, have so far not confirmed whether some devotees might have fallen into the river, instead saying that no one was missing, despite local reports claiming divers were pressed into service to trace the missing people.

Senior police and civil officials reached the spot immediately, and rescue operations were launched. National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams also reached there and took part in the operations. The injured were rushed to the hospital.

A senior official said in Agra that many devotees were rescued from under the debris, while a search was on for others.

AAP's Malik becomes first MLA to be held under Public Safety Act

J&K legislator detained for allegedly disturbing public order in Doda district

ZULFIKAR MAJID
SRINAGAR, DHNS

Mehraj Malik

The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Monday invoked the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) against AAP legislator Mehraj Malik, marking the first time a sitting MLA has been detained under the controversial law that allows imprisonment without formal charges or trial for up to two years.

Malik, who represents the Doda constituency, was detained earlier in day after a case was registered against him for allegedly using abusive language against the Deputy Commissioner. Several videos circulating on social media purportedly show 36-year-old legislator abusing officer.

A senior official confirmed the development, saying the MLA had been detained under the PSA and shifted to jail.

Police have also reportedly registered a case against Malik and five of his supporters for theft of hospital equipment. Sources said the FIR was lodged at Police Station Gandoh under various sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita after the Block Medical Officer Thathri filed a complaint accusing them of stealing medical equipment and other belongings and obstructing public servants during the shifting of an AAM health centre at Kencha in Block Thathri.

This is not Malik's first brush with the law. In May this year, he was booked following a complaint by Dr Madhu Chib, Associate Professor and Head of Gynaecology and Obstetrics of Government Medical College and Hospital, Doda. He was charged under sections 356 (criminal intimidation), 79 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman), and 351 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of peace) of the BNS.

While the PSA has been frequently invoked against separatist leaders, political activists, and suspected militants, this is the first time it has been applied to a sitting legislator.

"There is no justification for detaining Mehraj Malik under PSA. He's not a threat to 'public safety' and using this discredited law to detain him is wrong. If the unelected government can use its powers against an elected representative like this then how does anyone expect the people of J&K to continue to have faith in democracy," Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said on X.

Woman burnt alive by stalker in Uttar Pradesh

LUCKNOW, DHNS: In a shocking incident, a woman was allegedly burnt alive by a youth who had been stalking her for the past few months in Uttar Pradesh's Farrukhabad district.

According to police sources, the 33-year-old woman was on her way home on Saturday after buying medicine when she was confronted by Deepak, a resident of Jaitpur village in the district. Deepak, who was accompanied by five others, allegedly poured petrol on the victim and set her ablaze near an orchard.

The victim, who sustained severe burn injuries, was rushed to the district hospital and later referred to the medical college hospital at Saifai in Etawah district, but succumbed to her injuries late on Sunday evening.

An FIR was lodged against Deepak and five others, and a manhunt was launched to arrest them.

The victim, Anita (name changed), was married and her husband worked in a factory in Delhi. The mother of two lived in a rented accommodation in Fatehgarh.

The victim's father said Deepak had been stalking Anita for several months and was pressuring her to become his friend. She had spurned him multiple times.

Police assured strict action against culprits.

Centre allowed to transfer pleas on Online Gaming Act to SC

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Monday allowed a plea by the Union government to transfer the petitions challenging the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025, from three high courts to the apex court to avoid conflicting verdicts.

A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and K V Vishwanathan transferred the petitions pending before the Delhi, Karnataka, and Madhya Pradesh HCs.

The writ petition, titled "Head Digital Works Private Limited & Anr Vs Union of India" was pending before the Karnataka HC at Bengaluru, while writ petition titled "Bagheera Carrom (OPC) Pvt Ltd Vs Union of India" was pending before the Delhi HC, and a similar plea, titled "Clubboom 11 Sports & Entertainment Private Limited Vs Union of India" was pending before the Madhya Pradesh HC.

The court directed the HCs to transfer the entire records with all interlocutory applications filed within one week.

"Let this transfer be done digitally to save time," said the bench after hearing Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta for the Union government and senior advocates C A Sundaram and Arvind Datar for the petitioners.

The Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) had filed the plea for the transfer of three pending cases from the HCs to the apex court.

It noted that multiple petitions were filed in HCs challenging the validity of the law — passed with the objective of promoting and strategically regulating the online gaming sector, while safeguarding citizens from the adverse effects of online money games, and simultaneously encouraging and regulating other forms of online gaming — after it got the President's assent.

Top court orders Rs 25L compensation to convict wrongly held in jail for extra years

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Monday directed the Madhya Pradesh government to pay a compensation of Rs 25 lakh to a convict who had suffered extra incarceration in a rape case.

A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and K V Viswanathan directed the state government to pay the compensation after noting that the convict, Sohan Singh, spent 11 years and 7 months in jail, although he was on bail for some time, his actual jail sentence was only seven years.

The court also questioned the State's counsel for filing "misleading" affidavits in the matter. It criticised the state government for its lapse, which led to the over-incarceration of the convict.

The bench directed the Madhya Pradesh Legal Services Authority to carry out an exercise to identify similarly placed persons.

Last month, the court noted that although the High Court partly allowed the appeal by the petitioner by reducing the life imprisonment sentence to seven years of rigorous imprisonment, the petitioner was released from jail only on June 6, 2025.

The court had then sought an explanation from the Madhya Pradesh government.

"We would like to know how such a serious lapse occurred and why the petitioner remained in jail for more than eight years even after undergoing the entire sentence of seven years," the bench said.

Appellant Sohan Singh approached the apex court against the Madhya Pradesh High Court's judgement of October 10, 2017.

The petitioner was put on trial in the Court of Sessions Judge, Khurai, District Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, for offences punishable under Sections 376(1), 450 and 560B of the Indian Penal Code.

The Sessions Trial resulted in the conviction of the petitioner, who was sentenced to undergo life imprisonment with a fine of Rs 2,000.

MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie

MY NEW TRAINEE, FREDDIE, JUST GRADUATED FROM POSTAL SCHOOL!
WITH A BACHELOR OF STAMPS DEGREE!
IMPRESSIVE!
I DID MY THESIS ON ACCURACY IN DELIVERY!
THEN WHY DO I HAVE MY NEIGHBORS' POWER BILLS?!
JUST HANG IN THERE! IT'LL GET BETTER!

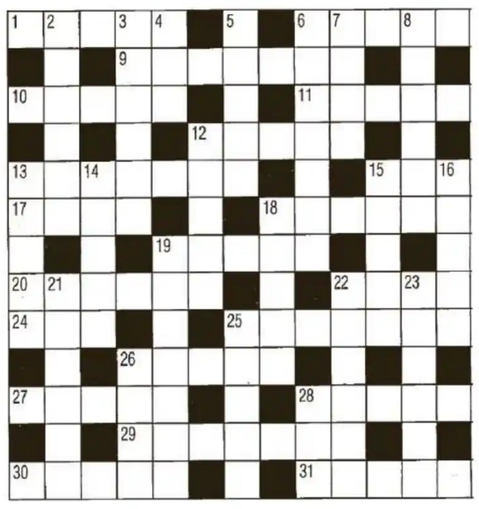
Hagar The Horrible

Beetle Bailey

Peanuts

Marvin

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12242



CRYPTIC

ACROSS
1 Form of chain perhaps easily broken (5)
6 Do fully as before (5)
9 Clarify what's no longer clear (7)
10 Shooting brake? (5)
11 Blazing away (5)
12 The underground is in some trouble (5)
13 The difficulties minor collisions can lead to (7)
15 Got together in time, tardily (3)
17 Rush with the rent (4)
18 Property at Bourne End, say (6)
19 Run a mine behind the house (3,2)
20 In French opinion, he was Polish (6)
22 Some missiles never reach their target (4)
24 Mr Wood of Hampstead? (3)
25 He, Clive, designed a carrier (7)
26 In some terminology, a 'speedo' (5)
27 A sound line in road building (5)
28 Great in regal style (5)
29 Hardly well spoken (7)
30 Confess to upsetting the maid starting tomorrow (5)
31 Regarding, for example, the Scots one concealed (5)

DOWN
2 It's a chore making a name (6)
3 As drunk in a trance? (6)
4 With which to cut taxes? (3)
5 Hurtles over the stage? (5)
6 How Evelyn, for instance, can possibly stir Ida (7)
7 In certain forms the data is restricted (4)
8 Mark and Jack are recipients (6)
12 Though sweet, one hopes, the answer could be a lemon (5)
13 Keep to corporal punishment (5)
14 With light on, it looks like silk (5)
15 In a raincoat, Joe looks charming (5)
16 Short way to chop trees (5)
18 Ida sounds a duck! (5)
19 Not exactly hideous place of concealment (4-3)
21 He brought the news that one regiment held out (6)
22 Form of address for the woman on the motorway (6)
23 It may strike one as a catchy phrase (6)
25 Scrimp and save, perhaps (5)
26 She makes me repeat myself (4)
28 Shelter in a terrible emergency (3)

ACROSS
1 Lawful (5)
6 Sorceress (5)
9 Of the stomach (7)
10 Two-footed animal (5)
11 Sharp end (5)
12 Broaden (5)
13 Male servant (7)
15 Father (3)
17 Plant (4)
18 Lying face upwards (6)
19 Outrider (5)
20 Stink (6)
22 Assistant (4)
24 Small piece (3)
25 Conspirator (7)
26 Present age (5)
27 Small Eurasian mammal (5)
28 Money resources (5)
29 Sure (7)
30 Mistake (5)
31 Party, informally (5)

DOWN
2 Newspaper boss (6)
3 Representatives (6)
4 Stripling (3)
5 Tarnish (5)
6 Destroy completely (4,3)
7 Religious image (4)
8 High-kicking dance (6)
12 Spectate (5)
13 Foremost (5)
14 Lubricated (5)
15 Finger or toe (5)
16 Discourage (5)
18 Soil (5)
19 Child's vehicle (7)
21 Deposit on teeth (6)
22 Adjust or accustom (6)
23 Numb, dampen (6)
25 Adhesive (5)
26 Mexican snack (4)
28 Petty lie (3)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12241

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 3, Waist 8, Ca(RA)van 10, Heels 11, Pa-p 12, Pedal 13, Jan-itor 15, Pleas 18, Dot 19, Key men 21, Altered 22, Easy 23, Slap 24, Scuttle 26, Chesty 29, Rue 31, Haste 32, Regen-cy 34, Ar- I-el 35, VAT 36, Bairn 37, Repot 38,Teno-R.
DOWN: 1, Japan 2, Rap-idly 4, Aver 5, Shaped 6,Telly 7, Algae 9, Van 12, Po-ten-cy 14,Tot 16, Emile 17, Snaps 19, Kestrel 20, Perch 21, As-S-es 23, Sleeves 24, Sterne 25,Tug 27, Hal-Al 28, Start 30, Actor 32, Reno 33, Nap.

EASY
ACROSS: 3, Alias 8,Tapas 10, Silly 11, Vet 12, Pails 13, Catch on 15, Easel 18, Hip 19, Delete 21, Ketchup 22, Aunt 23, Mane 24, Artisan 26, Intern 29, Oar 31, Aisle 32, Butcher 34, Atlas 35, Hum 36,Teeth 37, Fetid 38, Early.
DOWN: 1, Naval 2, Hatchet 4, Loan 5, Asleep 6, Sisal 7, Sleet 9, Pet 12, Popcorn 14, Hit 16, Sedan 17, Level 19, Dubious 20, Mafia 21, Knits 23, Marches 24, Aretha 25, Sat 27, Niger 28, Elate 30, Remit 32, Bawl 33, Hut.

◆SU-DO-KU-6696◆

	3			1				2
	5	9						
	4		8	2	7		5	
							8	4
		6				2		
3	9							
	8		2	3	9		6	
						7	3	
9				4			2	

hard

SOLUTION TO 6695

3	5	8	9	6	2	1	7	4
7	9	1	4	5	8	6	3	2
2	4	6	1	3	7	8	9	5
5	1	3	6	2	4	9	8	7
6	8	2	7	9	1	5	4	3
9	7	4	5	8	3	2	6	1
4	6	5	3	1	9	7	2	8
1	2	7	8	4	6	3	5	9
8	3	9	2	7	5	4	1	6

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

©2024 Mattel, SCRABBLE™ and SCRABBLE tiles, including S1 tiles, are trademarks of Mattel.

M3	R1	T1	O1	P3	P3	T1	4th Letter Triple	RACK 1
G2	G2	Y4	D2	E1	Y4	H4		RACK 2
O1	E1	C3	T1	T1	T1	B3	3rd Letter Double	RACK 3
S1	S1	N1	U1	E1	P3	D2		RACK 4

PAR SCORE 70-80
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

N1	E1	R1	V4	I1	N1	G2	RACK 1 =	83
S1	O1	M3	E1	O1	N1	E1	RACK 2 =	77
D2	E1	R1	I1	D2	E1	S1	RACK 3 =	77
W4	E1	A1	P3	O1	N1	S1	RACK 4 =	86
								323

PAR SCORE 210-220 JUDD'S TOTAL

JUMBLE®

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LTETI

RSYOR

OHCOES

NEENLK

After the show, what do you say we all go bowling?
Yeah! I feel some strikes coming on!
First, let's get ready to bring this place down!
I've got my ball in my car.
THE BAND PLANNED TO GO BOWLING AFTER THEIR GIG BECAUSE THEY WANTED TO ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

©2025 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CHAOS LUCKY FASTEN EASILY
Answer: The police officer was being methodical, but the thief wanted to — CUT TO THE CHASE

HITORI-3150

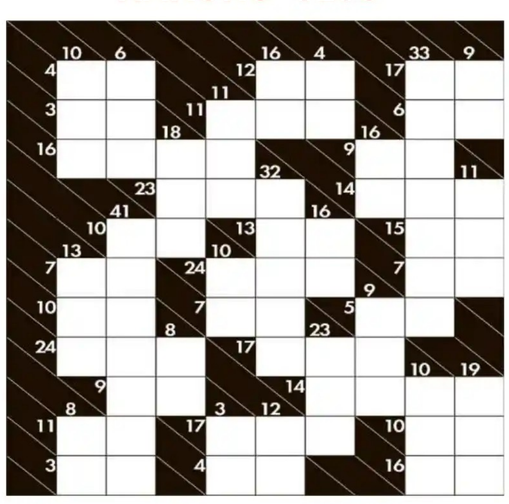
7	5	6	3	2	7	8	1
8	6	7	5	7	3	2	7
1	7	7	2	6	1	1	3
3	7	4	7	7	1	7	6
6	8	3	4	1	4	7	7
1	2	7	6	7	8	5	4
2	1	6	8	4	5	6	7
4	1	6	7	5	6	6	2

SOLUTION TO 3149

1	■	8	7	5	2	4	■
7	6	■	2	■	4	■	3
3	■	6	1	4	■	8	2
2	5	4	■	8	7	■	1
■	2	7	4	■	3	6	5
4	8	■	3	2	■	1	■
5	■	1	6	■	8	■	4
6	4	■	8	1	5	3	7

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3150



SOLUTION TO 3149

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3671

9			6		3			■
	■	7	4				■	
		■				■		
			■		■			8
			3	■	2			
		6	■		■			
		■	5			6	7	
6	■	4					■	2
			7		9	1		■

SOLUTION TO 3670

9	6	8	3	1	5	7	4	2
4	3	2	7	6	9	5	8	1
1	5	7	8	4	2	3	6	9
6	2	3	4	7	1	8	9	5
8	9	1	2	5	3	4	7	6
5	7	4	9	8	6	1	2	3
3	8	6	1	9	7	2	5	4
2	4	5	6	3	8	9	1	7
7	1	9	5	2	4	6	3	8

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

Trump loses appeal in $83 million defamation case

NEW YORK, AP/PTI: A federal appeals court has upheld a civil jury's finding that President Donald Trump must pay $83.3 million to E Jean Carroll for his repeated social media attacks against the longtime advice columnist after she accused him of sexual assault.

In a ruling issued on Monday, the 2nd US Circuit Court of Appeals rejected Trump's appeal of the defamation award, finding that the "jury's damages awards are fair and reasonable." Trump argued he should not have to pay the sum, citing a Supreme Court decision expanding presidential immunity.

A civil jury in Manhattan issued the $83.3 million award last year following a trial that centred on Trump's repeated social media attacks against Carroll over her claims that he sexually assaulted her in a Manhattan department store in 1996. That award followed a separate trial in which Trump was found liable for sexually assaulting Carroll and ordered to pay $5 million. That ruling was upheld by an appeals court last December.

In her memoir, and again at a 2023 trial, Carroll described how a chance encounter with Trump at Bergdorf Goodman's Fifth Avenue store in 1996 began with the two flirting as they shopped, before ending in a violent struggle inside a dressing room. Carroll said Trump slammed her against a dressing room wall, pulled down her tights and forced himself on her.

Palestinian attackers kill 6 in Israel bus stop attack

Netanyahu warns of 'war on multiple fronts' after deadly attack

JERUSALEM, AP/PTI

Palestinian attackers opened fire at a bus stop at a busy intersection in north Jerusalem on Monday, killing six people and injuring 12 others, according to Israeli police, emergency rescue services and local hospitals.

Police said the attackers targeted people waiting at a bus stop.

An Israeli soldier and a civilian at the scene shot dead the attackers, police added.

The war in Gaza has sparked a surge of violence in both the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Israel. Palestinian militants have carried out deadly attacks against Israelis in Israel and the West Bank, while settler violence against Palestinians has also increased.

Monday's shooting occurred at a major intersection at the northern entrance to Jerusalem, on a road leading to Jewish settlements in east Jerusalem.

Israeli security forces gather by a body next to a bus at the scene of a shooting at the Ramot road junction in East Jerusalem on Monday. AFP

Footage of the attack showed dozens of people fleeing during the morning rush hour. A bus, its windshield riddled with bullets, stood idle at a bus stop, while belongings were scattered across the street.

Paramedics described the scene as chaotic, strewn with broken glass, with wounded people lying unconscious on the road and pavement near the bus stop.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu arrived at the scene around two hours after the shooting. He was scheduled to appear in court on Monday for his ongoing corruption trial, which was delayed due to the security situation. Netanyahu warned that Israel is "fighting a war on multiple fronts," including Gaza, the West Bank and Israel itself.

He also praised the soldier who killed one of the attackers, a member of a newly formed unit for ultra-Orthodox soldiers. Hundreds of security forces were deployed to search for additional attackers or explosives that could have been planted in the area. The Israeli military said it was encircling Palestinian villages on the outskirts of the nearby West Bank city of Ramallah as part of heightened security measures.

Hamas hailed the shooting without directly claiming responsibility, calling it a "natural response to the occupation's crimes against our people." Monday's incident was the deadliest attack since October 2024, when two Palestinians from the West Bank opened fire on a light rail train in Tel Aviv, killing seven people and wounding many others. Hamas' military wing claimed responsibility for that attack.

Data from the UN's humanitarian office shows that at least 49 Israelis were killed by Palestinians in Israel or the West Bank between the start of the war and July 2025.

Gaza City residents told to flee

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday told residents of Gaza City to evacuate as the military stepped up its assault on the Palestinian territory's main urban centre, AFP reports from Jerusalem.

"In two days we brought down 50 terror towers, and this is only the opening stage of the intensified ground manoeuver in Gaza City. I say to the residents: you have been warned, leave now!" Netanyahu said.

Indonesian leader fires ministers

JAKARTA (INDONESIA), AP/PTI: Indonesia's president announced a Cabinet reshuffle Monday, replacing key economic and security ministers after deadly protests erupted across the country over lawmakers' perks.

The Cabinet shake-up comes as public dissatisfaction rose with President Prabowo Subianto's administration and the parliament's perceived insensitivity over economic hardships.

Five ministers lost their jobs, including Finance Minister Sri Mulyani Indrawati, a widely respected technocrat and former managing director of the World Bank, and Budi Gunawan, the coordinating minister for politics and security.

Violent protests that left seven people dead had gripped Southeast Asia's largest economy after reports that all 580 members of the House of Representatives receive a monthly housing allowance of 50 million rupiah (USD 3,075), in addition to their salaries.

Navarro calls India's Russian oil buys 'blood money'

US–India tensions rise as tariff war escalates

NEW YORK, PTI

US President Donald Trump's trade adviser Peter Navarro on Monday termed India's purchases of Russian oil as "blood money" and claimed Delhi did not buy oil from Moscow in significant quantities before the Ukraine conflict.

Using an expletive in his post on X, Navarro wrote: "Fact: India didn't buy Russian oil in large quantities before Russia invaded Ukraine. It's blood money and people are dying."

Last week, Navarro, the White House's Senior Counsellor for Trade and Manufacturing, said in another post: "India's highest tariffs cost US jobs. India buys Russian oil purely to profit. Revenues feed Russia's war machine. Ukrainians and Russians die. US taxpayers shell out more. India can't handle truth/spins."

When a community note was added to Navarro's post by X, he attacked Elon Musk, saying the billionaire owner of X was "letting propaganda into people's posts. That crap note below is just that. Crap. India buys Russian oil solely to profiteer. It didn't buy any before Russia invaded Ukraine. Indian government spin machine moving at high tilt. Stop killing Ukrainians. Stop taking American jobs."

X explained that "Community Notes on X is a crowd-sourced programme where users can add context and fact-checks to potentially misleading posts.

White House trade advisor Peter Navarro speaks to the media at the White House in Washington DC. REUTERS FILE

'Sanctions will never force Russia to change course'

The Kremlin said on Monday that no sanctions would ever force Russia to change course in the Ukraine war, hours after the United States and the European Union indicated they were considering additional economic restrictions, Reuters reports from Moscow. The West has imposed tens of thousands of sanctions on Russia over its 3-1/2-year-old war in Ukraine.

US SC backs Trump on aggressive immigration raids

WASHINGTON, AFP

US immigration agents can for now continue roving patrols in Los Angeles to detain migrants indiscriminately, the US Supreme Court ruled on Monday as it upheld a practice that critics call racial profiling.

The court announced the decision in an unsigned order that gave no reasons. Its three liberal members dissented. The case remains alive, however, in lower courts and could again end up before the highest court.

The court granted a suspension of a federal court's ruling in July that ordered a halt to roving patrols carried out by Immigration and Customs Enforcement as part of President Donald Trump's plan to deport hundreds of thousands of undocumented migrants.

In these operations, agents sometimes wearing masks summarily round up people at places where immigrants tend to gather like parks or work low wage jobs, such as car washes.

Critics say the agents make random arrests based on people's skin color and the language they speak, very often Latinos speaking Spanish.

In one high-profile case last month ICE agents grabbed more than a dozen people outside a Los Angeles home furnishings store in a "Trojan Horse" raid, despite the court order. Agents sprang from the back of a rented moving truck in an episode filmed by embedded journalists from Fox News.

Last month a three-judge panel denied a government appeal to overturn the judge's original order, after rights groups argued that the raids appeared to be arresting people largely based on their race. While the Supreme Court did not state reasons for its decision, one of the conservative justices, Brett Kavanaugh, wrote a concurring opinion in which he said "illegal immigration is especially pronounced in the Los Angeles area."

One of the three liberal justices, Sonia Sotomayor, the first Latina named to the court, dissented. "We should not have to live in a country where the Government can seize anyone who looks Latino, speaks Spanish, and appears to work a low wage job," she wrote. "The Constitution does not permit the creation of such a second-class citizenship status."

India has deported groups of Rohingya Muslims by land and sea: UN human rights chief

UNITED NATIONS/GENEVA, PTI: India has deported groups of Rohingya Muslims by land and sea, the UN human rights chief said on Monday, voicing concern that policies that violate rights of migrants and refugees are becoming normalised in some countries.

"Human rights — all human rights — are the solid foundations of flourishing societies... And yet, disturbing trends that undercut our rights are gaining ground across the world," United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk said in his global update to the 60th session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

Türk said that policies and practices that violate the rights of migrants and refugees are becoming normalised in some countries.

"Pakistan and Iran have forcibly returned millions of Afghans to their country, and India has also deported groups of Rohingya Muslims by land and sea," he said. He voiced further concern about recent measures taken by Germany, Greece, Hungary, and other European countries to limit the right to seek asylum.

The US has reportedly reached agreements with several governments, including El Salvador, South Sudan, Eswatini and Rwanda, on deporting third country nationals to places other than their homeland, raising concerns about compliance with international law, he said.

As part of the UN's efforts to improve and promote human rights everywhere, Türk urged all countries to do more so that "every child – whether a future farmer, digital worker, doctor or shopkeeper" understands that human rights "are our birthright".

According to Human Rights Watch, an estimated 40,000 Rohingya live in India, at least 20,000 of whom are registered with the UN refugee agency.

French govt collapses in confidence vote

PARIS, AP/PTI

Legislators toppled France's government in a confidence vote on Monday, a new crisis for Europe's second-largest economy that obliges President Emmanuel Macron to search for a fourth prime minister in 12 months.

Prime Minister François Bayrou was ousted overwhelmingly in a 364-194 vote against him. Bayrou paid the price for what appeared to be a staggering political miscalculation, gambling that lawmakers would back his view that France must slash public spending to repair its debts.

Instead, they seized on the vote that Bayrou called to gang up against the 74-year-old centrist who was appointed by Macron last December.

The demise of Bayrou's short-lived minority government — now constitutionally obliged to submit its resignation to Macron after just under nine months in office — heralds renewed uncertainty and a risk of prolonged legislative deadlock for France as it wrestles with pressing challenges, including budget difficulties and, internationally, wars in Ukraine and Gaza and the shifting priorities of US President Donald Trump.

French Prime Minister Francois Bayrou leaves after addressing the National Assembly in Paris on Monday. REUTERS

Although Macron had two weeks to prepare for the government's collapse after Bayrou announced in August that he'd seek a confidence vote on his unpopular budget plans, no clear front-runner has emerged as a likely successor.

Far-right leader Marine Le Pen has called for Macron to again dissolve the National Assembly, seemingly confident that her National Rally party and its allies would win a majority.

"A big country like France cannot live with a paper government, especially in a tormented and dangerous world," she said in the National Assembly.

Heathrow's Terminal 4 shut over hazardous materials

LONDON, REUTERS: One of the four terminals at London's Heathrow Airport was evacuated on Monday while firefighters responded to what emergency services described as a "possible hazardous materials incident," prompting heightened security checks and temporary disruption for travellers.

Heathrow, one of Europe's busiest airports, said on social media its Terminal 4 was closed as emergency services dealt with the incident, while reassuring passengers that all other terminals were operating as normal.

"Specialist crews have been deployed to carry out an assessment of the scene, and Terminal 4 has been evacuated as a precaution whilst firefighters respond," a London Fire Brigade spokesperson said via email, adding that they were first called about the incident at 1701 BST (1601 GMT).

WORLD AT A GLANCE

A protester spills red paint during a march against increased police brutality in Belgrade, Serbia, on Monday. REUTERS

UK's new Home Secretary sets out harder line on migration

Britain's newly-appointed Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood on Monday set out a harder line on immigration as she warned of visa suspensions for countries that refused to "play ball" and take back illegal migrants, PTI reports from London.

In one of her major engagements since taking charge at the Home Office last week, the minister hosted ministerial counterparts from the US, Australia, New Zealand and Canada at a meeting of the intelligence-sharing group named "Five Eyes" in London. They are said to have jointly agreed to establish clear obligations for countries to accept the return of individuals who have no legal right to remain in the UK, we will deport you. If countries refuse to take their citizens back, we will take action," Mahmood said in a statement. It goes on to highlight that in cases where "non-cooperative countries" are unwilling to accept the enforced repatriation of their own nationals, this could lead to measures such as "appropriate adjustments to visa arrangements" to reflect changes in immigration risk.

45 soldiers kidnapped in Colombia

Hundreds of people surrounded and kidnapped 45 soldiers who were working to implement programmes to replace illicit crops in the southwest of Colombia, in a stronghold of a rebel group, AP/PTI reports from Bogota (Colombia).

The army, in a press release on Sunday, said the incident occurred in the Micay Canyon, in the Cauca department, an area known for coca leaf cultivation and a current bastion of a rebel faction that broke away from the former Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia. The army said the 45 soldiers were "kidnapped" after being surrounded by around 600 people who prevented them from being deployed in the area.

Singer Sabrina Carpenter poses with her awards at the 2025 MTV Video Music Awards in Elmont, New York, on Sunday. REUTERS

Teen kills 2 Turkish police officers

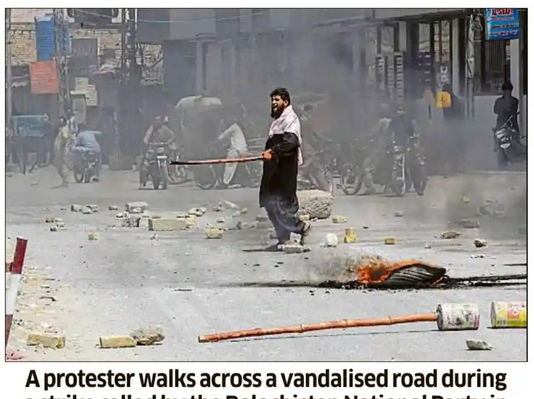
A 16-year-old masked assailant attacked a police station in western Turkiye on Monday, killing two police officers, AP/PTI reports from Ankara.

At least six other people were wounded, including other police officers, in the Balcova district of Izmir, Turkiye's third-largest city. The assailant was arrested and the motive was under investigation, Izmir chief prosecutor Ali Yeldan said at the scene. The teenager carried out the attack just days after being released from custody, allegedly in retaliation for mistreatment at the police station, private broadcaster NTV reported. He used a pump-action shotgun during the assault, NTV and other outlets reported.

Pak flood fear: 25,000 evacuated

Rescuers backed by troops evacuated more than 25,000 people from a city in Pakistan's Punjab province overnight as rising rivers threatened to flood the region, AP/PTI reports from Jalalpur Pirwala (Pakistan).

The rescue operation in Jalalpur Pirwala began late Sunday and continued through the night, said Irfan Ali Kathia, director-general of the Punjab Disaster Management Authority. By Monday morning, about 25,000 residents from high-risk areas had been moved to safer areas. The evacuations from Jalalpur Pirwala came two days after a rescue boat capsized on the city's outskirts, killing five people.



A protester walks across a vandalised road during a strike called by the Balochistan National Party in Quetta on Monday. AFP

When teachers are held hostage by the system

PAVAN SONI

Have you ever been in the shoes of a teacher who cannot reprimand students, monitor their behaviour, fail no one, or even stop them from walking in and out of their class right when the teacher is trying to concentrate? If you have been a teacher ever, you might have experienced the helplessness involved in this situation.

Even guest lecturers are obliged to go through this, hoping that one of the two parties survives the ordeal. Mostly, it is they learning how not to rock the boat, keep it placid, without burning the bridges. Even a slight assertion of one's position, let alone intellect, can be counterproductive.

The predicament of the current educational system is that teachers are sandwiched in not just two, but in four dimensions. The four dimensions of this vice are: 1) parents 2) promoters and management 3) society and social media, and 4) recruiters and economy.

Each of the stakeholders has urgent and often conflicting demands, and the hapless teacher cannot even ask for a raise. Parents expect the ward to carry forward their misplaced ambitions, oblivious to their capabilities or the economic realities. They expect the teachers to hone their offspring's intelligence, creativity and character over the six hours, even though the child spends a far greater time at home. It is almost as if upbringing is outsourced.

For the school's promoters and management, saying 'no' to a client doesn't amount to good business sense. The leaders are convinced that a happy customer is one whose ward is exposed to the latest and greatest, without the slightest physical or intellectual difficulty.

Since the hard infrastructure is the more visible dimension of growth, as opposed to the soft, the teachers are the last ones to be invested in. For counsellors, it isn't easy to convince schools about teacher development programmes.

There is a huge pressure on the schools to deliver a workforce and create jobs in future. The syllabus often appears outdated, the style seems trite, and the teacher appears incompetent at bridging the generational gap. The WhatsApp university fills the informational chasm with low-value din.

As parents and students catch up on various WhatsApp groups, social media channels and more, the whole idea of a child's absorptive capacity is lost. Everyone is engaged in an arms race to be on the top. Bring in the vagaries of the economy that is obliged to adopt automation while safeguarding employment, the teacher is solving a problem created by others. They are expected to prepare a *homo economicus* who will survive for the next 40 years, all in a three-credit course with 75 per cent compulsory attendance.

A teacher who succumbs to these pressures in any way would risk being called out on the professional front. A teacher cannot do much when a student or parent is confident that ChatGPT knows it all and that they have to just 'get through' this ordeal. Corporal punishments are a bygone, outdated, inhumane practice, but even verbal reprimands are out of question today. A teacher is inches away from her video 'leaked' on social media, and her career is finished.

This is when a teacher feels helpless, held hostage by her very patrons, those whom she is supposed to serve, and those whose future she ought to shape.

It's time for us to gather the courage to prioritise education over economics, for the idea has always been to shape the character of the student. Parents must take charge of their wards, along with teachers and make it less fashionable to label schools as 'creativity killers'. Promoters must take the lead and conduct classes, and the businesspeople must stop plucking the fruits and instead invest in the roots. As a teacher, I reckon that the tribe has been shortchanged, for they aren't paid even remotely as close to what they are expected to pull. It starts with parents. Yes, you!

(The author teachers at a IIMB)

BULLETIN BOARD

Research and field studies internship
Chrysalis Services is hiring research and field studies interns who can work from home. Students with knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research, field work, research and analytics can apply by September 18. The stipend is Rs 10,000 /month. Apply at: https://shorturl.at/HcF3Y.

Human Resources (HR) internship
Podium Systems Private Limited is hiring HR interns who can work from home. Students with knowledge of MS-Office and recruitment, and possessing spoken English proficiency can apply by September 18. The stipend is Rs 2,000 - 4,000/month. Apply at: https://shorturl.at/bzhDf.

Business strategy internship
Takumi Motion Controls is hiring business strategy interns in Bangalore. Students with knowledge of Data Extraction, Finance, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, Research, Analytics, Statistics, and possessing English Proficiency (Both Spoken and Written) can apply by September 18. The stipend is Rs 18,000 - 24,000/month. Apply at: https://shorturl.at/cLDZg.

Manager - Business Relations internship
Rousing Designs is hiring manager - business relations interns in Bangalore (Hybrid). Students with knowledge of AutoCAD, Figma, Logical reasoning, and problem-solving can apply by September 28. The stipend is Rs 10,000/month. Apply at: https://shorturl.at/9EVrb.

What can beat AI in job market?

There will be careers that AI will not disrupt, so make it a friend and not a foe, writes Ali Khwaja

Since Artificial Intelligence (AI) took the world by storm, there has been constant anxiety, doubts and discussion on whether human jobs will become redundant, and people who are comfortably going through their careers with their expertise and experience may suddenly find themselves jobless.

Each news about the capabilities of AI sets off panic, with more and more people fearing termination. The number of people enrolling in astronomically priced online AI courses in a bid to outdo AI has increased.

When there is a surplus of such graduates, the demand slows down and some of them find themselves directionless in their mid-career. One needs to be cautious. Some selected professionals who have the right skills and aptitude will make big money and will be successful; many others will have wasted valuable time chasing a mirage.

The irony is that the AI being new, we still do not have clarity on what aspects of it can be used where, and what needs to be learned by professionals from fields of technology, law, medicine, teaching, publishing, design, management, etc.

Hence, it is essential to understand which roles and functions are unlikely to be taken over by AI, at least in the foreseeable future. It is equally important to understand how AI can actually facilitate and enhance the efficiency of certain work roles, making humans more productive and successful.

Human roles

No software can replace human creativity for the simple reason that we have neuroplasticity, the ability to form new ideas and go into uncharted territories. Hence, "non-programmed decisions" which have no precedent will require human ingenuity, intuition and thinking outside the box. Humans will also continue to be needed for understanding cultural diversity and for dealing with conflicts and aggression.

Work profiles that will continue to require human effort include those that require physical dexterity, creativity, strategic planning, human interaction, performing arts, and music, among others. The output of AI is predictive, i.e. based on algorithms that have been fed in.

Another task that can be difficult for some AI models to take over is to relate to human emotions, understand or predict the behaviour of others (what we refer to as empathy), and convince customers or opponents based on their thinking and their needs.

Since Daniel Goleman introduced the concept of "Emotional Intelligence" in 1995, success in future has been predicted to depend 80% on emotional intelligence, and less than 20% on cognitive intelligence (IQ). The emergence of factors such as Data Science has further reinforced this. While unlimited data is available at the touch of a fingertip, behavioural scientists discuss how people become DRIP (Data Rich, Insight Poor). Similarly, Machine Learning, Internet of Things, and Robotics all rely on logical, analytical and sequential processing. To train an AI to process all these will take a lot of effort, something not all AI-making firms might want to invest in.

Since Generative AI creates new networks by learning patterns from existing data, there is a risk of disseminating false information, copyright infringement, and incorrect interpretation ("He became mad" in the US may mean he was angry, but in India it may mean insanity). The same applies to Predictive AI, whose role is to forecast and predict the future, but it is again based on existing data. Efforts are underway to incorporate quantum computing and brain-machine interfaces to enhance results, but it may take some time before they become reliable.

While cushy white-collar jobs may become rarer in some fields, there are also roles that AI cannot easily hit. Prominent ones include farmers, nurses and paramedical professionals, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, life skill trainers, musicians, creative designers, teachers, and craftsmen. Unlike in Western countries, such non-academic (blue-collar) jobs have not been in great demand, and they have not been earning much. But that is likely to change slowly but surely.

Up the ladder

Higher on the ladder are roles that are respectable but currently not much in demand: anthropologists, archaeologists and historians, researchers in both scientific and human behaviour realms, HR professionals, lawyers and judges, public speakers and actors, policemen, social workers and mental health workers, priests, and chefs.

Within the world of AI, Bill Gates suggests that people who develop AI systems and write code will continue to be in high demand, particularly those in areas such as debugging, refining, and advancing the development of AI. He has said that people in the fields of energy and biology will continue to be in demand worldwide.

Harish Iyer, a technologist with three decades of experience, notes that while AI is transforming many industries, certain professions remain resilient due to their reliance on human judgment, emotional intelligence, creativity, and ethical nuance.

He also discusses being aware of new developments that are coming in rapidly. For example, the emerging role of an AI ethicist. AI has many ethical issues that need to be addressed. This role basically monitors the outputs generated by AI models and suggests remedies. This role needs people from various domains based on where AI is being applied, not just computer science engineers.

Last words: You need not be an automobile engineer to drive a car, you need not be a hardware expert to use a computer, and you need not be an architect to live in a comfortable house. AI can make our jobs easier, provided we have the basic knowledge and understanding to use it wisely. Do not panic and rush to become an AI technologist if you do not have the aptitude; it is easier to pursue the career you like and are good at, and ask AI to make your tasks easier and faster.

(The author is an education and career counsellor)

Changing idea of 'ideal worker'

A new study from the Global Institute for Women's Leadership at King's Business School and the University of Zurich has traced a two-decade shift in how employers in Switzerland describe the "ideal worker," revealing early signs that flexibility, gender equity and work–life balance are beginning to reshape occupational cultures.

The researchers developed a novel method using machine learning to analyse job advertisements across 47 occupations between 2001 and 2023 to track cultural expectations that shape who is seen as a "good" worker, and how those expectations are changing. The results are published in the journal Gender, Work & Organisation.

Traditionally, the "ideal worker" has been defined by masculine-coded traits such as full-time availability, long hours and prioritising work above all else. The researchers found early indicators of an emerging "inclusive worker norm," one that understands that workers have diverse commitments, and recognises that people have responsibilities in their private lives and families. Furthermore, there are signs that gender equality in the labour market is increasing over time.

Progress towards inclusive norms has been most prominent among health care and administrative professionals. In managerial and finance occupations, expectations of long hours and work devotion have eased, bringing them closer to other occupations, although they still maintain the strongest emphasis on these demands.

However, the study also cautions that job postings may not fully reflect workplace realities. Shifts in language can be symbolic or aspirational and may not always translate into inclusive day-to-day practices. The researchers also highlight that gains from more inclusive norms are not evenly distributed—with outcomes varying across gender, class and other social groups.

-PHYS.ORG

Minor subjects matter in university degrees

DARSHAN B M

These days, a single academic specialisation is no longer enough. Employers, educators, and even students themselves recognise the need for versatility. That is where minor subjects in honours degree programmes come in. Though often seen as an add-on, minors are proving to be a powerful way to enrich learning, widen career options, and prepare students for a future that demands adaptability.

Majors provide students with depth, but minors offer them breadth. By stepping into another discipline, students see the world through a wider lens. A Journalism student who picks Political Science as a minor develops sharper insights into governance and policy, strengthening their reporting skills.

A physics student exploring philosophy on the side learns to question and reason more deeply, going beyond formulas to think about ethics and implications. This cross-pollination of knowledge makes students more rounded. In a world where real-life problems rarely fit into neat disciplinary boxes, having more than one perspective is invaluable. Here are other advantages.

■ **Boosting career prospects:** When it comes to jobs, a minor skill can make a major difference. Employers increasingly look for candidates who can combine expertise with complementary skills. A business graduate with a minor in Data Analytics is not just a manager but also someone who understands numbers and trends. An English graduate who has also studied Digital Marketing can easily step into roles in publishing, advertising, or brand communication. For some, minors even act as a career pivot. They provide a backup or alternative pathway if the primary field feels too narrow or opportunities change. In this way, a minor is not just an academic choice but a smart career strategy.

■ **Sharpening transferable skills:** Another advantage is the development of transferable skills—those abilities that can be applied to any career. A Statistics minor builds logical reasoning and data literacy useful in almost every profession. Psychology sharpens communication and understanding of human behaviour. Foreign languages open doors to global careers and cultural awareness. Such skills make graduates adaptable, giving them an edge in today's uncertain job market, where careers evolve faster than ever before.

■ **A stepping stone for higher studies:** For students aiming at postgraduate courses or research, minors can be especially useful. They provide academic grounding for interdisciplinary work, which is highly valued in advanced studies. An Economics major with a minor in Environmental Studies is better prepared for research on sustainable growth. Similarly, a student of Education with a Sociology minor can take up research on social inequalities in schools. Graduate schools often appreciate candidates who demonstrate both focus and curiosity—qualities that a major-minor combination naturally reflects.

■ **Nurturing personal passions:** Not every minor has to be about career planning. Many students pick subjects that fuel their personal interests. An Engineering student might choose Music or Theatre as a minor, while a Law student may explore Creative Writing. This balance between professional preparation and personal growth helps students stay engaged and reduces the stress of academic rigour. Such combinations also nurture creativity and emotional intelligence, qualities that are increasingly recognised as vital for success in any walk of life.

■ **Global and future-ready:** In today's interconnected world, jobs rarely fall into single categories. Public health experts need communication skills, engineers must understand management, and sociologists often work with technology. A Computer Science graduate with an Economics minor might enter fintech, while a Sociology major with Gender Studies as a minor can contribute to policy and advocacy on global platforms. By encouraging this interdisciplinary approach, minors make graduates future-ready. They ensure that students are not boxed into one identity but can move confidently across fields as opportunities arise.

Studying a minor subject in an honours degree is much more than an academic formality. It is a chance to explore passions, strengthen career prospects, and build a richer understanding of the world. For students, it means standing out in a crowd of graduates with similar majors. For parents, it means their children are better prepared for a changing job market. And for universities, it signals a step towards creating graduates who are both specialised and versatile. The value of a minor lies in the doors it opens—whether in jobs, higher studies, or personal fulfilment. It is a reminder that in education, sometimes a "minor" choice can have a major impact.

(The author is an assistant professor in a Bengaluru-based university)

CEC CITY ENGG. COLLEGE
Affiliated to VTU, Approved by AICTE
Kanakapura Main Road, Bengaluru – 560 062
NAAC B++
CET Code: E109 | COMEDK Code: E037 | PGCET Code: T937
Courses Offered
Tuition Fee Per Year
BE
CS ₹ 1,75,000/-
AI & ML ₹ 1,50,000/-
ISE ₹ 1,25,000/-
E & C ₹ 1,25,000/-
Mech ₹ 65,000/-
Civil ₹ 65,000/-
CSE-IOT & Cyber Security ₹ 1,25,000/-
BBA ₹ 65,000/-
BCA ₹ 65,000/-
MBA ₹ 57,750/-
MCA ₹ 57,750/-
M.Tech - CS ₹ 69,310/-
98804 11364 | 73490 32929
www.cityengineeringcollege.ac.in

Honda to invest Rs 600 cr for electric vehicle plant

New project will come up in its existing campus at Narasapur

BENGALURU, DHNS

Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India Limited (HMSI), a subsidiary of the Japanese auto major, will soon commission a new plant to produce electric two-wheelers adjacent to its Narasapura plant in Kolar district at an investment of Rs 600 crore. The company is currently manufacturing 2.4 million two-wheelers in Narasapura.

Honda's leadership, led by Noriya Kaihara, director, executive vice president, and representative executive officer, on Monday, informed a delegation from Karnataka led by Industries Minister M B Patil that the company's first electric two-wheeler production base in India will be set up in Narasapura. Aligned with the Global Investors Meet MoU it signed with the government of Karnataka, the project will be grounded shortly.

The Patil-led delegation, which is visiting Japan, urged Honda to explore expanded investments beyond the two-wheeler segment and assured full support from the state government. Honda will manufacture electric two-wheelers for both sale in the domestic market as well as exports, according to sources in the industries department.

HMSI currently sells two electric scooters in India - Activa e and QC1. The Activa e comes with a swappable battery system and is supported by a network of swappable battery stations in Bengaluru, Delhi, and Mumbai. QC1 comes with a fixed battery which delivers a range of 80 kms per charge. Both these models are manufactured at its factory in Narasapur.

From Left - Gunjan Krishna, Commissioner for Industries, MB Patil, minister of large and medium industries, Boria Kaihara, Director, Honda, and Selvakumar, principal secretary, department of commerce and industries at a meeting in Tokyo on Monday.

The Karnataka delegation also held discussions with Mitsubishi Electric, Yokogawa Electric, Tokyo Electron, and Restar to strengthen partnerships and explore new investments in the state. The delegation showcased Karnataka's deep semiconductor ecosystem and highly skilled talent pool, positioning the state as a natural choice for Tokyo Electron's future growth. Both sides agreed to maintain close engagement to explore further collaboration.

During their meeting with Mitsubishi Electric, the company shared details of its presence in Karnataka and expansion plans. Yokogawa Electric, which employs 2,000 people in its Karnataka plant, assured the delegation that it will explore further expansion opportunities in the state.

Restar Holdings, a key Japanese player in electronics and semiconductor solutions, discussed opportunities to strengthen the electronics value chain in Karnataka. The delegation urged the company to initiate EMS (electronics manufacturing services) operations in Bangalore. Restar shared that it is entering into a joint venture with an Indian partner to establish distribution operations in India.

The minister assured full support to Restar in its upcoming ventures and encouraged the company to consider future expansion in the state.

Patil is accompanied by senior officials including Selvakumar, principal secretary, Department of Commerce and Industries, and Gunjan Krishna, commissioner for Industrial Development. The visit is part of the Government of Karnataka's broader efforts to attract high-value investments from Japan, reinforcing the state's position as India's leading destination for advanced industries and innovation.

Qatar trade pact framework likely to be finalised in Oct

Piyush Goyal could visit Doha on October 6

NEW DELHI, REUTERS

Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani visited India in February.

India is likely to finalise the terms of reference for a proposed free trade agreement with Qatar in early October, a government source said on Monday, as it pushes to forge deeper global partnerships and offset the impact of US tariffs.

Trade Minister Piyush Goyal could visit Doha on October 6 to conclude the framework for negotiations, the government source, who asked not to be named as the details of trade discussions are still not public, told reporters.

During a February visit to India by Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, both sides agreed to elevate their partnership and double bilateral trade to $28 billion within five years.

Qatar has also announced plans to invest $10 billion in India in infrastructure, technology, manufacturing, food security, logistics, hospitality and other sectors.

India and Qatar already have close energy cooperation and last year renewed a long-term deal for the supply of liquefied natural gas to India for 20 years starting in 2028.

After U.S. President Donald Trump imposed additional 25% tariffs on Indian goods for buying Russian oil last month, doubling total duties to 50%, New Delhi is accelerating efforts to deepen trade ties with other partners.

It is also seeking a free trade pact with the European Union, India's biggest trading partner in goods, later this year.

Exporter groups estimate the U.S. tariffs could affect nearly 55% of India's $87 billion in merchandise exports to the United States, while benefiting competitors such as Vietnam, Bangladesh and China.

India also aims to sign bilateral trade pacts with Oman, Chile and Peru, part of its push to boost exports and diversify markets, while protecting farmers and small businesses, the source added.

Give financial support to MSMEs hit by US tariff: EEPC to Govt

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Engineering goods exporter lobby EEPC India on Monday urged the central government to extend financial support to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) hit by the US tariffs.

EEPC India Chairman Pankaj Chadha suggested that the government should consider interest equalisation schemes for MSMEs in order to reduce the interest burden on small businesses.

Interest paid by the MSMEs currently hovers around 9% or above, making the cost of capital high and rendering them less competitive in the global market, he said.

He also urged the government to sign free trade agreements with Latin American countries like Chile, Peru, and Mexico in order to diversify the export markets.

"We need to have some advantage over our competitors. The only way we can have a better advantage with government support is to have an FTA with Chile, Peru, and Mexico. If we can get duty-free access to them, we can derisk a substantial part of the US exports to South America and possibly West and North Africa," Chadha said.

Referring to the impact of the sudden surge in tariffs on Indian exporters in the US, Chadha said the rating agencies should ignore the US exposure of companies while reviewing their ratings. The US has imposed 50 tariffs on Indian goods effective from August 27.

President Droupadi Murmu with Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal during the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of the Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC), in New Delhi on Monday. PHOTO: PTI

"I request that, at least for this year, US exposure is not taken for rating consideration. Because if the US exposure is taken for rating consideration, then most of the companies will get a downgrade, not an upgrade. So, as a one-time exercise, the US exposure should not be taken," he said.

Earlier, speaking at the platinum jubilee celebrations of the EEPC India, President Droupadi Murmu said the challenges of global trade need to be turned into opportunities by utilising the exceptional capabilities available in the country and making India a global innovation centre.

India's engineering export destinations have changed significantly over the last seven decades. EEPC should continue this process of change and keep working to make India's economy continuously stronger, the President said.

Underlining the growth in India's engineering exports, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said India's engineering goods exports rose from $10 million in 1955 to $116 billion in 2024-25.

Goyal asked businesses that are import dependent, to procure products that are made in India.

On GST reform, Goyal said efforts must be made to ensure that the benefits of Goods and Services Tax (GST) rate cut were passed on to end consumers.

'Aug car sales fall as customers defer purchase awaiting GST cut'

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Passenger vehicles sales dropped by 1.63% month-on-month in August as customers postponed purchases anticipating price reduction following announcement about GST reforms, the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) data showed on Monday.

"The month began on a positive note with healthy enquiries and festive bookings, but momentum slowed in the latter half as the announcement of GST 2.0 reforms led many customers to postpone purchases, anticipating a price reduction," the industry body said.

Heavy rains and floods in some regions further disrupted walk-ins, while uneven supply of high-demand models and aggressive original equipment manufacturer (OEM) targets added to the pressure, it added.

The announcement about GST reform was made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Independence Day address on August 15.

The GST Council on September 3 approved overhaul in the indirect tax structure. The goods and services tax (GST) rates are proposed to be significantly lowered on a host of items, including automobiles. The GST on small cars, buses and other commercial vehicles like trucks and delivery vans, are proposed to be cut to 18% from 28% with effect from September 22.

"August traditionally ushers in festive cheer, with Onam and Ganesh Chaturthi heralding the season of joy. Customers continued to show strong enthusiasm with high enquiries and robust bookings, ensuring that vehicles are aligned for auspicious festive deliveries. The only issue was conversion, which saw slowdown due to benefits of GST 2.0 kicking in September," said C S Vigneshwar.

Total passenger vehicle sales in August stood at 3,23,256 units, which was 1.63% lower when compared with July data of 3,28,613 units. However, on a year-on-year basis it was 0.93% higher.

At the close of August, average inventory levels for passenger vehicles stood at around 56 days.

Overall retail sales of vehicles in August were only 0.02% higher when compared with the previous month. Only the two-wheeler category witnessed an increase. On a year-on-year basis the overall retail sales in August was 2.84% higher.

Israel, India sign pact to bolster bilateral investment

BLOOMBERG: Israel and India announced the signing of a bilateral investment agreement by the finance ministers of the two countries in New Delhi.

"The new agreement supports the promotion of mutual investments, while providing certainty and protection for investors," Israel's Finance Ministry said in a statement on Monday after the signing of the agreement by Bezalel Smotrich and his Indian counterpart Nirmala Sitharaman. The pact will help expand trade between the nations, the statement added.

The ministry also said that Israel has become the first member of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, or OECD, to sign such an agreement with India, underscoring the strong financial ties between the two countries. Israel's imports of goods and services from India, excluding diamonds, totaled $1.6 billion last year, making up 1.1% of total imports, according to official data. Exports to India totaled $3.1 billion. Israel and India already have strong defense ties.

TVS Motors pins hope on a festive market bonanza

MAHESH KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

TVS Motor Company expects the upcoming festive season to be its best ever in terms of sales following the cut in GST rates by the GST Council recently. The company has refreshed its product portfolio to meet the increasing demand from its customers, a top company official said.

"We are happy with the government's decision to cut GST rates. We will see the best-ever Diwali season this year. We have a widest and freshest range of products and we are confident of seeing the best sales season this year," Aniruddha Haldar, Senior Vice President - Head Commuter & EV Business, TVS Motor Company told *DH*.

The company is currently recalibrating its product prices after the GST rate cut on two-wheelers to 18%. The new rate structure across models will be announced in a day or two, he said.

As part of its efforts to attract new customers, TVS Motor has refreshed a series of its models and launched upgraded vehicles. The company, on Monday, launched TVS NTORQ 150, a hyper sport scooter. It is powered by a 149.7 cc race-tuned engine and inspired by stealth aircraft design. The company expects it will cater to a new generation of riders who are looking for high performance with hyper connected tech. The scooter is priced at Rs 119,000 (ex-showroom). The price will be adjusted once the company announces new pricing, he said.

Aniruddha Haldar, Senior VP-Head, Commuter and EV Business, TVS Motor at the launch of TVS NTORQ 150cc scooter in Bengaluru on Monday.

Haldar said the company is investing heavily in R & D to refresh all its existing products and develop new products. The company will bring to the market both electric and IC engine products as and when required. The company recently new top-of-the-line trims of the RTR 160 4V and RTR 200 4V, and limited-edition variants across TVS Apache RTR 160, 180, 200 and TVS Apache RR310 and RTR310. It also announced the addition to the TVS Raider Super Squad Edition. Drawing inspiration from two of Marvel's most iconic characters, Deadpool and Wolverine.

Infosys board to consider share buyback proposal on Sept 11

NEW DELHI, PTI: India's second-largest IT services company Infosys on Monday said its board will consider a proposal for buyback of equity shares on September 11.

Infosys' BSE intimation on buyback did not provide other details.

"...the Board of Directors of Infosys Limited will consider a proposal for buyback of fully paid-up equity shares of the company at its meeting to be held on September 11, 2025, in accordance with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Buy-Back of Securities) Regulations, 2018, as amended," the company said in a regulatory filing.

The outcome of the board meeting will be disseminated to the stock exchanges after the conclusion of the board meeting on September 11, 2025, it added.

Formalisation of India's labour market on the rise: Quess Corp

MAHESH KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

India's labour market is rapidly transitioning from informal to formal employment and this shift is redefining how work is organised and delivered. A lot more workers are coming under the structured payroll systems, compliance frameworks, and long-term social security coverage, a new report said.

Around 84.7% (472.16 million) of the total workforce of approximately 557.39 million are still engaged in informal employment in the country. The formal sector accounts for 13.1% (73.10 million), and the flexi/temporary segment has grown to 6.8% (37.93 million), signalling structural shifts in employment formats across states.

However, multiple macro trends, including digitalisation, improved regulatory oversight, and growing workforce awareness, are accelerating formalisation efforts across the country, according to the "Pulse Report FY25" released today by Quess Corp, India's largest staffing and workforce solutions provider.

The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has recorded 139.78 lakh net new subscribers in FY25, its highest ever. The subscriber base more than doubled in the last six years from 61 lakh enrolments seen in FY19. In FY25, there were 1.31 crore new subscribers.

Total EPFO membership grew to 32.7 crore by March 2024, up from 29.9 crore in the previous year, showing a year-on-year increase of 9.36%.

SpiceJet expects to restart ops of 10 grounded planes by April 2026

NEW DELHI, PTI: SpiceJet, which flew into the red in the June quarter, expects to restart operations of 10 grounded aircraft by April 2026 as more than half of its fleet remains on the ground due to various issues.

At the end of the June quarter, the no-frills airline had just 21 operational planes out of the 56-strong fleet. Out of the operational aircraft, 8 were Boeing 737-800s, 6 Q400s, 3 Boeing 737-700 and 1 each of Boeing 737-900 and Boeing 737 Max, according to an investor presentation. A total of 35 planes were on the ground at the end of the quarter.

In the presentation after announcing the June quarter results, SpiceJet said it will "unground about 10 aircraft by April 2026, including 4-5 in early winter to cater for the peak demand". On September 5, the airline reported a net loss of Rs 238 crore in the three months ended June.

DH INTERVIEW

Centre has brushed aside the states' worry on revenue loss post-GST: Kerala FM

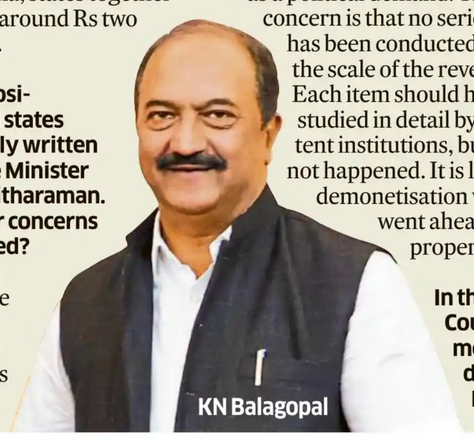
The GST Council has decided on rationalising tax slabs, amid concerns raised by Opposition-ruled states about revenue loss. Kerala Finance Minister **KN Balagopal**, who attended the meeting, spoke to *DH's* **Shemin Joy** on the deliberations and their concerns. Edited excerpts:

The GST Council has rationalised the tax rates. Are you satisfied with the outcome?

There has been doubts whether prices will really come down in a significant way. Kerala has also recognised this as an institutional concern. Since there is no anti-profiteering mechanism in place, the government must ensure this transfer of benefit happens. That is the most important demand. Another issue we raised was about revenue loss for states. In Kerala alone, there will be an annual loss of Rs 8,000-10,000 crore. We wanted a guarantee on a concrete compensation arrangement. Instead of discussing these issues, the Centre chose to ignore them. We told them that there is no need to collect new tax for providing compensation. Already, there is a compensation cess, which will end in October. Some items like tobacco attract 100-120% taxes. They can use this as a special fund to provide compensation to states. But that suggestion was not accepted. If this situation continues, states' finances will face severe problems. Across India, states together could lose around Rs two lakh crore.

Eight opposition-ruled states have jointly written to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. Were your concerns appreciated?

The issues raised were relevant not only to eight states nor is it a matter of opposition versus ruling coalition. We wanted a discussion but it was treated just as a political demand. The larger concern is that no serious study has been conducted to assess the scale of the revenue loss. Each item should have been studied in detail by competent institutions, but that has not happened. It is like during demonetisation when they went ahead without proper study.



KN Balagopal

In the GST Council meeting, did BJP Finance Ministers respond to concerns raised by the Opposition-ruled states?

In the meetings of the Group of Ministers, even BJP-ruled states had spoken about losses. But in the GST Council, they were not prepared to say anything different. After the Prime Minister and the BJP had taken a decision, there was no scope for real discussion from them.

Was there an attempt to force a vote on the demand for compensation to states?

None of us were against tax rationalisation. So we were not for a vote on the question of tax rationalisation. Our point was specifically about revenue loss. On that issue, we expressed our strong view, but it was brushed aside and not accepted. Instead of treating this as a genuine fiscal issue, some saw it as a political one rather than an economic or systemic concern. We also said that there is already money being collected through cesses and surcharges and that could be used to offset losses if they arise.

A major concern is about whether the rationalising of the tax slabs will actually reach consumers. How did the GST Council approach these concerns?

No substantial discussion happened on it. To implement such a major reform, none of the necessary safeguards are in place. Earlier, there was an anti-profiteering mechanism in place, but now it is no longer active.

The Finance Minister and Revenue Secretary Arvind Srivastava argue that it is too early to talk about revenue loss, as the GST rationalisation is expected to increase consumption. Do you agree with this position?

Usually, whenever such major changes are made, a detailed study is conducted for each item. But here, no such study has been done. Yet the Centre claims there will be no problem. That is simply not correct.

Gurpreet Singh Sandhu

India edge Oman on penalties to finish third

HISOR (TAJIKISTAN), PTI: India marked their debut appearance in the CAFA Nations Cup with a third-place finish, defeating higher-ranked Oman 3-2 on penalties for their first-ever victory against the West Asian side here on Monday.

The match went into shootout after the proceedings ended 1-1 post extra time at the Hisor Central Stadium.

After Udanta Singh Kumam's 80th-minute goal cancelled out Jameel Al Yahmadi's 55th-minute opener, the 30 minutes of extra time did not yield any result. Oman defender Ali Al Busaidi was sent off in the 96th minute.

Lallianzuala Chhangte, Rahul Bheke, and Jithin MS scored for India in the penalties, while Anwar Ali's spot-kick was saved and Udanta missed. Meanwhile, Thani Al Rushaidi, Muhsen Al Ghassani were the only two players to score their spot kicks for Oman. Harib Al Saadi and Ahmed Al Kaabi missed theirs, and Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, in dramatic fashion, produced a save off the last kick of the game from Jameel Al Yahmadi.

While Oman enjoyed majority of possession, both sides shared nearly equal number of chances.

India began on the front foot, launching counter attacks through Vikram Partap Singh and Lallianzuala Chhangte on the wings.

TENNIS US OPEN

Alcaraz gets one up on Sinner

Spaniard clinches sixth Slam; reclaims world No. 1 spot

NEW YORK, AFP

Carlos Alcaraz beat Jannik Sinner in four sets on Sunday to win the US Open and reassert his dominance of an era-defining rivalry in a final delayed by the visit of President Donald Trump.

The 22-year-old Alcaraz won 6-2, 3-6, 6-1, 6-4 to capture his second US Open crown and sixth Grand Slam title, avenging his lone defeat in a major final by Sinner at Wimbledon in July.

Carlos Alcaraz kisses the trophy after defeating Jannik Sinner in the men's singles final at the US Open in New York City on Sunday. AFP

MATCH STATS

Sinner	vs	Alcaraz
2	Aces	10
4	Double faults	0
1/1	Break points	5/11
89	Points won	112
13	Games won	21

"It's a great feeling. I'm working really hard just to lift this trophy. It's my second one, but it's still a dream come true," said Alcaraz.

Alcaraz will reclaim the world No.1 ranking from Sinner, returning to the top spot on Monday for the first time since September 2023 after ending the Italian's 27-match winning run at hard-court Grand Slams.

"It was one of the first goals that I had, to recover the number one (ranking)," said Alcaraz, who also defeated Sinner in an epic French Open final in June.

Alcaraz has now won seven of the past eight meetings and is 10-5 overall against Sinner.

Alcaraz and Sinner have shared the last eight Grand Slams on offer, winning four apiece to assert their superiority over the rest of the sport, including Novak Djokovic.

But while Sinner is 109-4 against the rest of the tour over the past two seasons, Alcaraz has had his number. Sinner's defeat at Flushing Meadowns extends the longest drought without a successful men's title defence of any Grand Slam in the Open era.

No man has retained the US Open crown since Roger Federer won five in a row from 2004 to 2008.

Anticipation for the third straight Grand Slam final between the game's top two players assumed an even greater dimension with the presence of Trump.

He appeared before the playing of the Star-Spangled Banner, waving to the crowd, which greeted him with a mix of cheers and boos.

He was given a frostier reception later in the match, though, when shown again on the stadium's big screens.

A constellation of showbiz and sports icons turned out as well Sunday, with rock star Bruce Springsteen, fashion icon Tommy Hilfiger, actor Michael Douglas and basketball superstar Stephen Curry all on hand.

The start of the final was pushed back 30 minutes to allow fans additional time to enter Arthur Ashe Stadium as a result of tighter security measures in effect due to Trump's attendance.

Even then, the 23,000-capacity venue was no more than three-quarters full when Alcaraz broke Sinner in the opening game of the match.

As he did in the Wimbledon final, Alcaraz pinned Sinner on the back foot early and broke a second time for a 5-2 lead before serving out to love.

With hundreds of spectators still waiting to get in at the start of the second set, Alcaraz sought to hammer home his advantage against Sinner.

He created a break point, but Sinner hung on and stalled Alcaraz's momentum, belatedly ramping up his game and surging 3-1 ahead as the Spaniard suffered a brief dip on serve.

Sinner levelled the contest at a set apiece but Alcaraz stormed back with another break early in the third, wriggling out of a tight spot on serve with the help of a sensational baseline smash that sliced away from his rival for a 3-0 edge.

He padded his lead with another break and quickly wrapped up the set, keeping his foot down to corner Sinner again to begin the fourth set.

This time Sinner saved two break points but Alcaraz made another charge in the fifth game, delivering the decisive blow for an advantage he never relinquished as the Spaniard became only the fourth man to win multiple majors on hard courts, grass and clay.

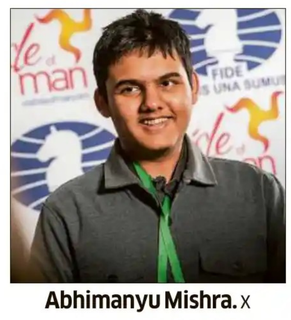
FACT FILE

- Name: Carlos Alcaraz
- World ranking: 1
- Titles: 23
- Grand Slams: 6
- US Open: 2 (2022, 2025)
- Wimbledon: 2 (2023, 2024)
- French Open: 2 (2024, 2025)
- US Open winners' cheque: $5 million

Youngest GM Mishra stuns Gukesh

Praggnanandhaa loses to Bluebaum; Arjun shines

SAMARKAND (UZBEKISTAN), PTI



Abhimanyu Mishra. X

Top seed Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa suffered a shock defeat against Germany's Matthias Bluebaum, while World Champion D Gukesh went down to the world's youngest ever Grandmaster Abhimanyu Mishra of USA in the fifth round of the FIDE Grand Swiss here on Monday.

On a day when Arjun Erigaisi scored a prolific victory over Russian-turned-Swiss Nikita Vituigov, Parham Maghsoodloo continued with his great form to outwit Richard Rapport of Hungary.

The victory with the black pieces kept Maghsoodloo in the sole lead on 4.5 points out of a possible five, signalling a strong return to form after previously scaling a peak rating of 2740.

Maghsoodloo is now followed by Arjun, Bluebaum and Mishra on four points each, with the possibility of Nodirbek Abdusattorov joining them.

For the records, the event carries 625000 USD in the open and 230000 USD in the women's section, apart from two top finishers in both sections assured of a berth in the next Candidates tournament that will decide the finalists for the world championship.

In the women's section, India's R Vaishali held on to her joint lead after signing a peace with Russia's Lateryna Lagno, who is playing under the FIDE flag.

While Matthias Bluebaum is enjoying the tournament of his career.

Shivam breaks Neeraj's Inter-Services' meet record

BENGALURU, DHNS: Javelin thrower Shivam Lohakare **(in pic)** scripted a history of his own during the Inter Services Athletics Championships in Jalahalli here on Sunday as the 20-year-old athlete broke Neeraj Chopra's meet record to claim the gold medal.

Shivam, representing Army Red, hurled the javelin to a distance of 84.31m, surpassing Neeraj's previous record of 83.80m. The attempt, however, won't be ratified as his personal best by World Athletics due to the event's non-certified status.

Meanwhile, Karnataka's Manikanta Hoblidhar turned out to be the best performer of the four-day event as he won three gold medals -- 100m, 200m and 4x100m -- for Army Red.

Red Bishop wins main event

HYDERABAD RESULTS

Red Bishop, from the stables of Pesi Shroff and ridden by Trevor Patel, won the Y Shanker Rao Memorial Deccan Colts Championship Stakes, the feature event of the Hyderabad races on Monday.

1. Medak Plate - 1200M: Nyanza (Shehzad Abbas) RN Darshan 1; Roxxane (Akshay Kumar) 2; City Of Moksha (Ajay Kumar) 3; Kitsune (BR Kumar) 4; Wb: 1/2, Shd, 7L. T: 1:14.93. TB: Raza Shehzad. Fav: Nyanza.

2. Chaitanya Chakram Plate - 1400M: Lake Michigan (Ashok Kumar Gupta) BR Kumar 1; Betsie (Ekram Alam) 2; Sharanga (Akashay Kumar) 3; Tootsie Darling (Trevor Patel) 4; Wb: 3, 1/2, 3/4L. T: 2:05.80. TB: Hilton Sequeira. Fav: Tootsie Darling.

3. Hussain Sagar Cup (Div I) - 1400M: Bold Beauty (Vara Prasad Reddy) Sai Kumar 1; Blue Pantheress (Ajeeth Kumar) 2; Sadiya (HM Akshay) 3; Star Medal (Abhay Singh) 4; Wb: 1-1/4, 1/2, 3L. T: 1:28.74. TB: Nilesh Rawal. Fav: Bold Beauty.

4. Hussain Sagar Cup (Div II) - 1400M: Shah Of Iran (Shehzad Abbas) RN Darshan 1; Sweet Dancer (Ajeeth Kumar) 2; Shubhrak (Ismail) 3; Take A Breath (Mukesh Kumar) 4; Wb: 2, 6, 1/2L. T: 1:28.64. TB: Raza Shehzad. Fav: Shah Of Iran.

5. Monsoon Cup - 1400M: Walking Thunder (Aditya Thackersey) Trevor Patel 1; Petaluma (G Vivek) 2; Miss Smiley Angel (Mukesh Kumar) 3; Krystallos (Vikrant) 4; Wb: 1/2, 3/4, 8-3/4L. T: 1:26.68. TB: Nirad Karanjawala. Fav: Walking Thunder.

6. A Krishnaswamy Memorial Cup - 1200M: Pacific Heights (Ramakrishna Reddy) Akshay Kumar 1; Star Forever (Ajay Kumar) 2; Arion One (BR Kumar) 3; Glorious Power (Ekram Alma) 4; Wb: 6-1/4, Shd, 1-1/4L. T: 1:13.40 TB: Leo Desilva. Fav: Ayushman.

7. Y Shanker Rao Memorial Deccan Colts Championship Stakes - 1600M: Red Bishop (KN Dhunjibhoy) Trevor Patel 1; Prokifiev (Antony Raj) 2; Knight Regent (Ashhad Asbar) 3; Matisse (Pranil) 4; Wb: Shd, 5-3/4, 3/4L. T: 1:38.90. TB: Pesi Shroff. Fav: Prokofiev.

8. Chief Minister's Cup - 1600M: Nonpariel (Rajendran) Mukesh Kumar 1; D Minchu (Ajeeth Kumar) 2; Hugh Capet (Sandesh) 3; Livermore (Akshay Kumar) 4; . Wb: 6-1/4L, Nk, Nk. T: 1:39.39. TB: D Netto. Fav: Nonpariel.

9. Makalu Plate - 1200M: Jim (Rohini Thuppal) Shivansh 1; Noorian (Sonu Kumar) 2; Ilene (Deepak Singh) 3; Always Special (Kuldeep Singh) 4; Wb: Shd, 3-1/2, 10-1/4L. T: 1-17.45. TB: M.F.Ali Khan. Fav: Jim.

Bengaluru dividends:
I race: Rs 43w; 14, 15, 15p; Fc: Rs 217; Q: Rs 118; Shp: Rs 49; Thp: Rs 46; Tri: Rs 1,448 & 566; Ex: Rs 7,678 & 2,193.
II race: Rs 32w; Rs 12, 29, 12p; Fc: Rs 468; Q: Rs 323; Shp: Rs 78; Thp: Rs 35; Tri: Rs 1,206 & 161; Ex: Rs 3,602 & 1,003.
III race: Rs 21w; 14, 12, 19p; Fc: Rs 73; Q: Rs 42; Shp: Rs 37; Thp: Rs 49; Tri: Rs 473 & 325; Ex: Rs 1,466 & 628.
IV race: Rs 23w; 13, 24, 28p; Fc: Rs 434; Q: Rs 428; Shp: Rs 61; Thp: Rs 70; Tri: Rs 3,033 & 1,070; Ex: Rs 5,259 & 1,252.
V race: Rs 19w; 14,, 12, 12p; Fc: Rs 46; Q: Rs 28; Shp: Rs 32; Thp: Rs 43; Tri: Rs 69 & 26; Ex: Rs 170 & 133.
VI race: Rs 70w; 18, 14, 15p; Fc: Rs 431; Q: Rs 161; Shp: Rs 27; Thp: Rs 28; Tri: Rs 1,594 & 1,195; Ex: Rs 7,605 & 2,897.
VII race: Rs 32w; 11, 12, 44p; Fc: Rs 49; Q: Rs 17; Shp: Rs 38; Thp: Rs 104; Tri: Rs 547 & 457; Ex: Rs 9,582 & 5,866.
VIII race: Rs 15w; 10, 17, 18p; Fc: Rs 47; Q: Rs 55; Shp: Rs 41; Thp: Rs 40; Tri: Rs 120 & 52; Ex: Rs 248 & 111.
IX race: Rs 24w; 16, 16, 14p; Fc: Rs 826; Q: Rs 317; Shp: Rs 36; Thp: Rs 44; Tri: Rs 9,655 & 5,172; Ex: Rs 50,186 & 7,821.
I jackpot: Rs 51,536 (1). **Runner-up:** 7,362 (3). **II jackpot:** Rs 4,008 (83). **Runner-up:** Rs 227 (627)**I treble:** Rs 1,852 (4). **II treble:** Rs 1,226 (4). **III treble:** Rs 198 (91).

Jaismine closes in on maiden Worlds medal

LIVERPOOL, PTI: Commonwealth Games bronze winner Jaismine Lamboria closed in on her maiden World Championships medal after storming into the quarterfinals, even as two other Indian boxers bowed out of the competition.

Competing in her third World Championships, Jaismine produced a clinical performance in the women's 57kg round of 16, out-punching Brazil's two-time Olympian Jucielen Cerqueira Romeu 5-0 late Sunday night.

The bout was a repeat of their gold medal clash at the Astana tournament in July, which Jaismine had edged narrowly.

Jaismine Lamboria

With the win, Jaismine is now just a win away from a World Championships medal. She will next face Asian Under-22 champion Khumoraboni Mamajonova of Uzbekistan.

In the men's draw, Abhinash Jamwal also progressed, moving into the 65kg round of 16 with a commanding 5-0 victory over Mexico's Hugo Barron.

But it was disappointing for Sanamacha Chanu (70kg) and Sakshi Chaudhary (54kg), who both exited in the round of 16.

Sanamacha went down to Kazakhstan's Natalya Bogdanova, while Sakshi was comprehensively beaten by Turkey's Hatice Akbas, the Paris Olympics silver medallist and two-time Worlds medallist.

Sakshi outplayed

Sakshi's inexperience was exposed against the technically superior Akbas, who struck cleanly and with authority throughout the contest.

Satwik-Chirag lead Indian charge

HONG KONG, PTI

Fresh from their World Championships bronze medal, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty will once again spearhead India's challenge at the Hong Kong Super 500 badminton tournament, beginning here on Tuesday.

The World No 3 duo, who produced a superlative show in Paris to clinch their second Worlds bronze, have been India's most consistent performers this season with several semifinal finishes on the BWF Tour, including events in India, Malaysia, China and Singapore. The eighth seeds will open their campaign against Chinese Taipei's Chiu Hsiang Chieh and Wang Chi-Lin.

Chirag Shetty (front) and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy come into the tournament on the back of a bronze medal at Worlds. REUTERS FILE PHOTO

Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu, who showed glimpses of her prime form at the Worlds with a demolition of China's Wang Zhi Yi before falling in the quarterfinals, will look to build on that performance when she faces Denmark's Line Christophersen in the opener.

US Open champion Ayush Shetty, one of the rising stars this year, has a tough first-round clash against China's Lu Guang Zu. Former world No. 6 Lakshya Sen, still searching for rhythm after his fourth-place finish at the Paris Olympics, will look to regain confidence when he takes on Wang Tzu Wei of Chinese Taipei. The 24-year-old shuttler has been plagued by narrow losses and niggles, and suffered a first-round exit at the Worlds against top seed Shi Yu Qi.

HS Prannoy, who went down fighting against Denmark's Anders Antonsen in Paris, faces another stiff challenge against Japan's fifth seed Kodai Naraoka in the first round.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE, U. R. RAO SATELLITE CENTRE
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP, HAL AIRPORT ROAD, VIMANAPURA POST, BENGALURU - 560 017. (Phone : 080 25084168, 4175, 4169) (Fax: 080 25084155)
BRIEF TENDER NOTICE

1. On behalf of the President of India, item- rate tender is invited for the following works:

Description	Details	Details
Name of work	Replacement of various sizes three way mixing valve in AHU's at Main campus, URSC, Vimanapura, Bengaluru-560017	Replacement of corroded SS Ducts with PPFRP Ducts in HDI Building at ISITE Campus, URSC, Marathahalli, Bengaluru-560037.
E-Tender Notice	URSC/C and MG/ACMD/0046/ETN-02/2025-26 Dt.08.09.2025	URSC/C and MG/ACMD/ AC/1058/ ETN-70A/2025-26 Dt.08.09.2025
Estimated cost put to Tender	₹ 17.33Lakhs	₹ 29.44Lakhs
Tender Document Details	E-Tender	E-Tender
Period of completion in months	180 days / 06 Months	180 days / 06 Months
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded.	From 10:30 Hrs. on 09.09.2025 to 16:30Hrs. on 23.09.2025	From 10:30 Hrs. on 09.09.2025 to 16:30Hrs. on 30.09.2025
Bid clarification	From 11:00 Hrs. on 09.09.2025 to 17:00 Hrs. on 25.09.2025	From 11:00 Hrs. on 09.09.2025 to 17:00 Hrs. on 06.10.2025
Last date and time of reply to Bid clarification.	Upto 17:00hrs on 29.09.2025	Upto 17:00hrs on 08.10.2025
Last date and time for receipt of tenders.	Upto 14:30 Hrs. on 06.10.2025	Upto 14:30 Hrs. on 15.10.2025
Due date and time of opening of tenders.	After 15:00 Hrs. on 06.10.2025	After 15:00 Hrs. on 15.10.2025
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	₹ 34,660/- (Validity for 180 days)	₹ 58,880/- (Validity for 180 days)

2. Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (NIET) for eligibility criteria and other details along with Hindi version in website: www.isro.gov.in and download the tender documents from www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO

Sd/-
Group Director (Construction & Maintenance Group)

ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮಾದನಾಯಕನಹಳ್ಳಿ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ–562123
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080–23718487
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: itstaff_ulb_mnhalli@yahoo.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಮಾ.ನ.ಕಾ/ತಾ.ಶಾ/27/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 08–09–2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

SBM-2 ಮತ್ತು ನಗರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾದನಾಯಕನಹಳ್ಳಿ ನಗರಸಭಾ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಅರ್ಹ ಹಾಗೂ ಅನುಭವವುಳ್ಳ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.
ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ/ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಶಾಖೆಯಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳು: DMA/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT 47025/CALL-2, DMA/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT49039, DMA/2025-26/ SE/6167.
ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ: ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24–09–2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿರುವ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25–09–2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.15 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಯಾವುದಾದರು ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು,
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಮಾದನಾಯಕನಹಳ್ಳಿ

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/2704/ಸ್ಯಾನ್/2025–26

Government of Karnataka
The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Hassan Division, Hassan.
No. EE/PWD/HSN/AE-1/2025-26/ DATED: 06.09.2025.

TENDER NOTIFICATION NO: 21/2025-26, Dated: 06.09.2025

Tender is invited by the Public Works Department on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000, Standard Tender Document KW-4 from the eligible registered Contractors of Karnataka PWD through E-Procurement for 02 Works in Hassan division. The minimum tender amount is Rs.103.74 lakhs and maximum tender amount Rs.138.16 lakhs under PWD Hassan Division jurisdiction. Last date & time for the works is dt:25.09.2025 @ 4:00 PM For more details visit https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or contact this office through Phone No. 08172-268437 or in person during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD,
Hassan Division, Hassan.

ವಾಸಾಇ/ಹಿಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/531/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
M.I & G.W.D.D. DIVISION, VIJAYAPUR
No.EE/MID/VJP/AE-1,4/4702/TND/2025-26/1836 Date: 08.09.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department, Division Vijayapur invites work tenders through "E-Procurement" from eligible contractor on item rate Tender for following works as per KTPP Act-2000 and latest amendments.
4702 Major Works :- 1) Providing New Gates to Hingani-Allagi Bridge-Cum-Barrage across Bhima River in Indi Taluka of Vijayapur District**(2nd Call)**, **Est. Cost Rs.121.06 Lakhs**, EMD **Rs.2,00,000-00, 2)**Managuli Pattan Panchayat Tank Filling from Managuli Branch Canal in Basavan Bagewadi Taluka of Vijayapur District, **Est. Cost Rs.153.14 Lakhs**, EMD **Rs.2,30,000-00, Tender Period for the above work is Six(6) Months including monsoon.**
Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka E-Procurement website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home under login for Contractors from **09.09.2025.** Tenders may be submitted on electronically in E-Procurement portal up to **17-30 hrs.** on **18.09.2025.** Interested contractors information regarding works may be obtained from this office or e-Procurement helpdesk (Ph.No.080-25501216 & 080-25501227) upto **17-30 hrs.** on **17.09.2025.** Pre-bid meeting will be held on **15.09.2025** for work costing above 1.00Crore in the office of the Executive Engineer, MI&GWDD Division, Vijaypur. Tenders shall be quoted without adding GST and other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
MI & GWDD Division, Vijayapur

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/322/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

Karnataka Government
Social Welfare Department, Chitradurga
Govt Science College opp. B.D.Road Chitradurga 577501
Ph No: 08194-295954 e-mail : ddswdcta@gmail.com
No: DD/SWD/CTA/Foodtender/CR-01/2025-26
Date: 06-09-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Supplying food items and other essential materials to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Pre-Matric and Post-Matric hostels being conducted in 06 taluks of Chitradurga district under the Social Welfare Department a tender has been invited at the district level through e-procurement for the year 2025-26. The details of the said tender are as follows.
1) Tender Number: SWD/2025-26/IND0341 Date: 06-09-2025
2) Tender Estimated Amount: 17,02,80,000/-
3) Tender Form Uploading Starting Date: 06-09-2025
4) Tender Pre Bid Meeting Date: 24-09-2025
5) Samples Submitting Last Date: 06-10-2025 / 5.00 pm
6) Tender Form Uploading Last Date: 06-10-2025 / 5.00 pm
7) Tender Technical Bid Opening Date: 09-10-2025 / 11.00 am
8) Tender Financial Bid Opening Date: 13-10-2025 / 11.00 am
9) Tender EMD Amount Rs. 17,02,800/-

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/335/2025-26
Sd/- Deputy Director,
Social Welfare Department, Chitradurga.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತ ಭವನ, ಮೊದಲನೆ ಮಹಡಿ ,
'ಬಿ' ಬ್ಲಾಕ್,ಕೊಠಡಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ–37,ಕರೂರು ಕೈಗಾರಿಕ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಪಿ.ಬಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08192–231782 E-Mail – ddswdvg@gmail.com
ಸಂ. ಜಿನಂ/ಸಕಇ/ಎಸ್–1/ಹೊ.ಸ.ಟೆ/ಸಿಆರ್–09/2025–26 ದಿ:08.09.2025

ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

(1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:– ಸಂ: ಜಂನಿ/ಸಕಇ/ಎಸ್–1/ಹೊ.ಸ.ಟೆ/ಸಿಆರ್–9/2025–26 ಮತ್ತು ದಿನಾಂಕ:–06–09–2025
(2) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಇಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ:– ರೂ.708.95 ಲಕ್ಷ.
(3) ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ:–ರೂ.10,63,437–30
(4) e-portal ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ ದಿನಾಂಕ:–06–09–2025
(5) Pre-bid meeting:-ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16–09–2025 ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ: 11.00ಗಂಟೆ
(6) e-portal ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಲಕೋಟೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ:–10–10–2025ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆ. (7) e-portal ನ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಲಕೋಟೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:– 13–10–2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ) (ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಿರುತ್ತದೆ) (8) e-portal ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಲಕೋಟೆಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:–ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ನಂತರದಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. (9) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿಳಾಸ, ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ Website: www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in ಹಾಗೂ ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತ ಭವನ, ಮೊದಲನೆ ಮಹಡಿ, 'ಬಿ' ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ಕೊಠಡಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ–37, ಕರೂರು ಕೈಗಾರಿಕ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಪಿ.ಬಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ. E-Mail-ddswdvg@gmail.com
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:–08192–231782

ವಾಸಾಇ/ಡಿವಿಜಿ/326/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26
ಸಹಿ/– ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು,
ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ.

All-round Shamanth shines for Kensri

BENGALURU, DHNS: Shamanth KC Raju scored a solid hundred first and later picked up a four-for as Kensri School coasted to a thumping 168-run victory over Carmel High School (U-16) in the Under-16 School tournament for the KM Ramprasad Shield here.

Kensri, batting first, posted 227 for the loss of eight wickets, riding on Shamath's 104.

In reply, Carmel HS (U-16) were bowled out for just 59 in 26.1 overs with Shamanth (4/18) and Navadeep P (2/3) doing most of the damage.

LOCAL CRICKET

Brief scores: Kensri School: 227/8 in 50 overs (Shamanth KC Raju 104, Dhruvesh 37; Bhavin Joe Francis 4-42, Shashank 2-40) bt Carmel High School (U-16): 59 all out in 26.1 overs (Shamanth KC Raju 4-18, Navadeep P 2-3).
Innisfree House School: 135 all out in 30.4 overs (Mohamed Hisham 59, Venkata Abhinav Polu 33; Arjun Balu 2-20, Aditya Raj 5-17, Abhay Surya V 3-34) lt to Florence Public School: 138/2 in 21.3 overs (Aditya Raj 45, Zayed Ahmed 29, Arjun Balu 35 n.o.).
Sudarshan Vidyamandir, ICSE: 87 all out in 33.2 overs (Vishal Reddy SV 2-16, Souhard B 3-22, Varun Kumar MG 2-10) lt to Presidency School, RT Nagar: 88/3 in 14.3 overs (Sathwik Rao V 56 n.o.; Rikshith R 2-29).
Frank Anthony Public School: 132/5 in 20 overs (Vivaan Balamahesh 45; Sukrut P Agarkhed 2-17) bt VVS Sardar Patel High School: 57 all out in 15.5 overs (Om M Gandhi 2-3, Vihaan Shivakumar 2-16, Thaman Sai M 3-16) (Start of the match was delayed due to wet outfield, later was revised to 20 overs per side). Bethany High School: 47 all out in 30.5 overs (Neev Bhattacharjee 26; B Rithvik 5-11, Yoga Chiranjeevi C 3-9) bt Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul International: 37 all out in 22.1 overs (Neev Bhattacharjee 3-13, Neil J Anthony 3-12, Naren Reddy N 2-6).
St. Paul's English School: 258/7 in 49 overs (Dherein V 109, Hiranmayi P 56; Saharsh R Shetty 3-45, Lohitaksha L Gowda 2-38) bt Presidency School, Nandini Layout: 63 all out in 26.2 overs (Hiranmayi P 6-13).
Venkat International Public School: 100 all out in 28 overs (Bhavanam Yashanth Reddy 2-23, Navaneeth Kothapalli 2-22, Abhaychandra Kallapura 2-8, Tarun Rajesh 3-8) lt to Vydehi School of Excellence: 101/5 in 26.1 overs (Aditya D 2-8).
Sri Kumaran Public School, ICSE, B-62: 252 all out in 46.4 overs (Tejas Vivek 107, Aryan Nayak 34; Ishan N Kausthubh 4-40, Keshav Hariharan 2-26) bt Mallya Aditi International School : 102 all out in 23.2 overs (Savir 45; Bhavesh PS 5-21, Aryan Angadi 2-19).

Vultures, Vijaya CC seal final berth

BENGALURU, DHNS: Manikanth Shivanand's unbeaten 98, along with Akshath Prabhakar's useful hand with both bat and ball (2/36 & 38), powered Vultures Cricket Club to a comprehensive six-wicket win over Swastic Union Cricket Club (1) in the semifinal of the KSCA Group I - I, II and III Division under-19 inter-club tournament here.

Batting first, SUCC (1) posted 236/6 in their stipulated 50 overs with Rohit RV (53) and Parth R (52) contributing the most.

Chasing a not-so-steep target for a place in the final, Manikanth made the bulk of the scoring as Vultures wrapped the game with 4.5 overs to spare.

The second semifinal saw an all-round Vijaya Cricket Club script a four-wicket victory over Jawans Cricket Club to set up a title clash with Vultures CC.

Vaibhav C (4/33) and Rishabh Adiga (3/30) skittled Jawans Cricket Club for 131 in 34.4 overs.

In reply, Vijaya CC struggled but got over the line with four wickets and 4.2 overs left, thanks to an unbeaten 65 from Dhruv Krishnan.

Brief scores: Swastic Union Cricket Club (1): 236/6 in 50 overs (Gagan Rao S 39, Rohit RV 53, Parth R 52, Akshath Prabhakar 2-36) lt to Vultures Cricket Club: 237/4 in 45.1 overs (Arnav Mishra 26, Manikanth Shivanand 98 n.o., Akshath Prabhakar 38; Rathan BR 2-61).
Jawans Cricket Club: 131 all out in 34.4 overs (Neel M Jain 25, Vaibhav C 4-33, Rishabh Adiga 3-30) lt to Vijaya Cricket Club: 135/6 in 45.4 overs (Dhruv Krishnan 65 n.o.; Prajwal Gowda R 2-16, Arya J Gowda 3-20).

◆ ON TV ◆

CRICKET

Asia Cup: Afghanistan vs Hong Kong **(8:00 pm)**. **LIVE** on **Sony Ten 1**.

FOOTBALL

FIFA WC qualifiers: Azerbaijan vs. Ukraine **(9:30 pm)**; Hungary vs. Portugal **(12:15 am on Wednesday)**. **LIVE** on **Sony Sports Network.**

CRICKET ASIA CUP

Bumrah return adds ammo

Pacer's parsimony and penetration will be key factors in India's campaign

R KAUSHIK, DUBAI

What a luxury it must be for a T20 captain to be able to fall back on the genius of Jasprit Bumrah. Virat Kohli and, later, Rohit Sharma enjoyed that privilege for extended spells, between 2017 and the middle of 2024, the latter for franchise and country. Now, for the first time since he took charge of India's Twenty20 International side some 13 and a half months back, Suryakumar Yadav can go about his business secure in the knowledge that he has four ultra-bankable, game-changing overs in the bag, 24 deliveries that can dictate the outcome of a contest irrevocably.

Bumrah hasn't played a T20I since his heroics in the World Cup in the USA and the Caribbean 14 months back. He didn't figure in India's Champions Trophy triumph in this part of the world in March, recovering from a recurring back injury that hangs around his neck like a millstone. He was under scrutiny in England over the summer after being made available for only three of the five Tests as to manage his body and ensure that another flare-up of the back, with devastating consequences, is avoided. His efficacy has been questioned, especially with both victories in England coming in his absence. But anyone who questions his place, or commitment, is clearly barking up the wrong tree.

There hasn't been even the slightest indication, during India's practice sessions since their arrival in Dubai last week, that Bumrah is anything but completely switched on. He has hit the ground running, deliberately choosing not to ease himself back. Rapid and furious at the nets, he has effortlessly donned his game-face, which must be music to Suryakumar's ears but which won't thrill India's opponents one bit.

The unquestioned star of India's march to the 2024 T20 World Cup as his parsimony and penetrative powers competed for eyeballs, the Player of the Tournament award was mere affirmation of Bumrah's influence on his team's extravagant display of class and calibre. 'Workload management', the much-abused term that was bandied about in England with the consistency of a Novak Djokovic making Grand Slam semifinals, should be in short supply over the next three weeks. Four overs per match, for a maximum of seven games spread over 18 days with potentially only one day's travel – to Abu Dhabi for the September 19 game against Oman – ought to be a breeze from a physical perspective.

Easily the best pacer across formats, Jasprit Bumrah will be pivotal to India's fortunes in the defence of their Asia Cup title. AP/PTI

Sustained absence

In Bumrah's sustained absence, left-armer Arshdeep Singh has established himself as the premier T20 pace bowler. Within three years of his debut, the 26-year-old is the country's leading wicket-taker in T20Is, with 99 sticks, though he will happily cede lead-striker status to his illustrious senior, whose benevolent guiding hand in Arshdeep's meteoric rise is all too evident. Dynamics of team composition will compel Suryakumar to walk a delicate tightrope in trying to fit Bumrah and Arshdeep into the same XI without compromising on batting depth. But it is a headache he and head coach Gautam Gambhir will be happy to be confronted with, given the other option – the lack of alternatives.

India have four Tests, all at home, lined up between now and the next T20 World Cup. Bumrah will play in some of those, at best; given where he is at now, it is in India and Bumrah's best interests to be smart and picky. His presence at the World Cup is imperative if India are to reprise the magic of last year. Welcome back, Jassi, Suryakumar might well say.

Pak warm-up with tri-series win

SHARJAH, AFP: Pakistan laid down a marker ahead of the Asia Cup as Mohammad Nawaz took a hat-trick in a 75-run win over Afghanistan in their tri-series final in Sharjah on Sunday.

Nawaz picked up 5-19 in total—his best figures in T20 internationals — as Pakistan skittled Afghanistan out for 66 in 15.5 overs while defending a modest 142-run target on a tricky pitch.

Afghan captain Rashid Khan took three wickets to help restrict Pakistan to 141-8, with Fakhar Zaman top-scoring with 27. Nawaz dismissed Darwish Rasooli and Azmatullah Omarzai off successive deliveries for ducks and then removed Ibrahim Zadran for nine off the first ball of his next over to complete a hat-trick, became the third Pakistani bowler.

Brief scores: Pakistan: 141/8 in 20 overs (Fakhar Zaman 27, Mohammad Nawaz 25; Rashid Khan 3/38, Noor Ahmad 2-17, Fazalhaq Farooqi 2-19) bt Afghanistan: 66 all out in 15.5 overs (Mohammad Nawaz 5-19, Abrar Ahmed 2-17, Sufiyan Muqeem 2-7) by 75 runs
PoM & **PoS**: Mohammad Nawaz

Morkel expects Dube to step up as back-up pacer

Shivam Dube. AFP

DUBAI, PTI: Shivam Dube remains a vital cog in India's T20 set-up and bowling coach Morne Morkel wants the Mumbai all-rounder to step up as a back-up medium pacer ahead of the T20 World Cup, in line with head coach Gautam Gambhir's philosophy of packing the XI with multi-skilled cricketers.

"For me, it's always important to see a guy like Shivam that can bowl four overs," Morkel told Indian media-persons on the sidelines of the team's net session at the ICC Academy.

"I'm always pushing for all-rounders to work hard on both skills. Sometimes guys can get a little bit naughty in practice and focus just on one. Here in this environment, we want to leave no stone unturned," the former Proteas fast bowler said.

Morkel believes there could be an odd day when the sixth and seventh option become necessary due to the vagaries of this format where the best can be belted without care.

"On the day, we're going to need somebody to do the work for us. Conditions might favour him more than somebody else.

"For us, it's about being professional.

"It's about taking responsibility of putting quality work in there on the day when you're called upon by Surya to do the job. You've to be ready to do that."

During Champions Trophy, India played four specialist spinners -- Kuldeep Yadav, Varun Chakravarthy, Axar Patel and Ravindra Jadeja. Morkel reminded that wickets at the Dubai Stadium is more greener and less tired now.

Asia Cup 2025 Groups & Schedule

GROUP A
● India ● Pakistan ● United Arab Emirates ● Oman

GROUP B
● Sri Lanka ● Bangladesh ● Afghanistan ● Hong Kong

SCHEDULE

Sep 9:	Afg vs HK, Abu Dhabi	**Sep 20:**	Super 4s: B1 vs B2, Dubai
Sep 10:	India vs UAE, Dubai	**Sep 21:**	Super 4s: A1 vs A2, Dubai
Sep 11:	Ban vs HK, Abu Dhabi	**Sep 23:**	Super 4s: A2 vs B1, Abu Dhabi
Sep 12:	Pak vs Oman, Dubai	**Sep 24:**	Super 4s: A1 vs B2, Dubai
Sep 13:	Ban vs SL, Abu Dhabi	**Sep 25:**	Super 4s: A2 vs B2, Dubai
Sep 14:	India vs Pak, Dubai	**Sep 26:**	Super 4s: A1 vs B1, Dubai
Sep 15:	UAE vs Oman, Abu Dhabi; SL vs HK, Dubai		
Sep 16:	Ban vs Afg, Abu Dhabi		
Sep 17:	Pak vs UAE, Dubai		
Sep 18:	SL vs Afg, Abu Dhabi		
Sep 19:	India vs Oman, Abu Dhabi		

SEP 28: FINAL, DUBAI

(All matches start at 8:00 pm IST, except UAE vs Oman on Sep 15, which starts at 5:30 pm).

FOOTBALL WC QUALIFIERS

Merino hat-trick sinks Turkey

Germany take Slovakia in stride, Depay becomes Holland's top-scorer

PARIS, AFP

Spain's Mikel Merino after scoring a hat-trick against Turkey at Konya Buyuksehir Arena in Konya on Sunday. REUTERS

Mikel Merino scored a hat-trick as a majestic Spain thumped Turkey 6-0 away in World Cup qualifying on Sunday, while a brilliant Florian Wirtz free-kick helped Germany beat Northern Ireland 3-1 to get their bid up and running.

European champions Spain were in unstoppable form in the central Turkish city of Konya, claiming their second biggest-ever away win in World Cup qualifying as Arsenal midfielder Merino scored his first professional hat-trick.

The quality of Merino's strikes was remarkable, with his first coming at the end of a superb team move, his second a controlled finish from a Pedri assist. He completed his triple with a curling shot into the top corner.

Germany recover

Germany were under pressure after losing their opening qualifier 2-0 in Slovakia on Thursday, and it took them until the final quarter of their home meeting with Northern Ireland in Cologne before they could secure the victory.

Serge Gnabry gave the hosts an early lead only for Isaac Price of West Bromwich Albion to equalise before half-time.

The home fans were unhappy with Julian Nagelsmann's team, but they eventually retook the lead on 69 minutes when substitute Nadiem Amiri turned in David Raum's cross.

Depay makes history

Memphis Depay became the Netherlands' all-time top goal-scorer with a brace in their 3-2 win in Lithuania in Group G.

Depay, who now plays in Brazil for Corinthians, scored his 51st and 52nd international goals to move clear of Robin van Persie, with whom he had been tied in first place on half a century of strikes for the Oranje.

The 31-year-old forward turned in Cody Gakpo's cutback for the opener before Quinten Timber netted the second goal for the Netherlands in Kaunas.

IN BRIEF

Aarushi brace powers Karnataka

▸ Aarushi Santhosh scored a brace while Spoorthi KU also found the back of the net as Karnataka beat Andhra Pradesh 3-0 in the Senior women's national football championship for Rajamata Jijabai Trophy at Narainpur in Chhattisgarh, reports DHNS.
Result: Karnataka: 3 (Aarushi Santhosh 26th, 45+1st, Spoorthi KU 71st) bt Andhra Pradesh: 0.

Sanya, Unnati advance

▸ Indian wild cards Sanya Vats and Unnati Tripathi defeated higher-ranked compatriots in the women's opening round of the Indian Squash Tour-2, reports PTI from Mumbai.

While Sanya got the better of Nirupama Dubey 11-7, 11-9, 11-7, Unnati rallied to beat the likes of Anjali Semwal 2-11, 11-7, 11-7, 14-12 here at the Otters Club.

Tanishka Jain and Janet Vidhi also advanced to the round of 16 stages.

All-round Niki Prasad steers Rajajinagar into semifinals

BENGALURU, DHNS: A fine all-round show by Niki Prasad and a century by Lavanya Chalana helped Rajajinagar Cricketers overwhelm Friend Union Cricket Club (1) by 217 runs in the quarterfinal of the KSCA Women's League here.

Niki slammed 108 in just 86 balls (9x4, 5x6) while Lavanya reached her 100 in 106 balls (8x4, 1x6) as Rajajinagar ran up a mammoth 332/6 in 50 overs.

Niki then returned to claim 3/29 as FUCC could muster only 100/8 in 31.2 overs.

Palar Sports Club (Kolar), Vultures Cricket Club and Hammonds Cricket Club completed the semifinal line-up.

While Palar SC drubbed SUCC (1), Vultures CC overwhelmed Mount Joy CC.

In the last quarterfinal, Hammonds had it easy against Dooravani.

Brief scores (Quarterfinals): Rajajinagar Cricketers: 332/6 in 50 overs (Roshini Kiran 31, Niki Prasad 108, Lavanya Chalana 100, Mithila Vinod 37; Prathiksha C 2-53, Shubha S 2-61) bt Friends Union Cricket Club (1): 100/8 in 31.2 overs (Mithila Vinod 2-30, Niki Prasad 3-29, Chandasi K 2-8).

Niki Prasad

Palar Sports Club, Kolar: 310 all out in 47.3 overs (Vrinda Dinesh 112, Inchara CU 67, Shreya Chavan 42, BG Tejashwini 25; Reethu 2-62, Veda Varshini V 3-41, Rimjhim Shukla 2-42) bt Swastic Union Cricket Club (1): 61 all out in 18.3 overs (Sakshi Munavalli 5-33, Kandi Kuppa Kashvi 2-1).

Vultures Cricket Club: 236/8 in 50 overs (Aadya 39, Bhumika R 32, Kinjal B Patel 38, Ahlam 33; Rajavarapu Brahmani 2-26, Soumya Shree G 2-29) bt Mount Joy Cricket Club: 120 all out in 34.3 overs (KJ Rajashree Iyengar 39; Srinithi 3-13, Chinmayi Shivanand 3-17, Bhumika R 2-28).

Hammonds Cricket Club: 257/9 in 50 overs (Prangini 86, Saanvi HR 49, Gowda Kusuma Nagaraju 38, Aditi R 28; Bhoomika HD 2-23, Tanushree M 2-45) bt Dooravani Cricketers: 101 all out in 35 overs (Anushree K Samagond 33; Jyotsna Karthikeyan 2-13, Aditi R 3-19).

Archers crash out in singles

GWANGJU, PTI: India's dream run in the men's compound events of the World Archery Championships ended on a disappointing note on Monday as the gold-winning team of Rishabh Yadav, Aman Saini and Prathamesh Fuge crashed out of the individual quarterfinals here.

The trio, which won a path-breaking gold in the team competition, was placed in different quarters of the draw and the country had a realistic shot at a clean sweep but it ended in heartbreak.

India crush Singapore to enter Super 4s

HANGZHOU (CHINA), PTI: Navneet Kaur and Mumtaz Khan dazzled with a hat-trick each as India stormed into the Super 4s with a commanding 12-0 victory over Singapore in the women's Asia Cup hockey tournament, here on Monday.

While Navneet (14', 20', 28') and Mumtaz (2', 32', 39') dominated the proceedings, a brace from Neha (11', 38') along with a goal each from Lalremsiami (13'), Udita (29'), Sharmila (45') and Rutuja Pisal (53') ensured another dominant victory for India.

India will next be in action on September 10, when they take on the second-placed team from Pool A in the Super 4s.

India's Udita Duhan (right) celebrates with Suman Devi after scoring a goal against Singapore. HI

Hardik, the perfect team-man, comes of age

HITA PRAKASH
RAJGIR, DHNS

I must have watched that goal like a 100 times already," laughs Hardik Singh when you remind him of the goal he scored for India against Korea in their first Super 4s match on Wednesday.

After receiving the ball from Sukhjeet Singh, the 26-year-old midfielder's solo run from just inside the centre line past the Korean defence, found the back of the net to give the hosts their opening goal in an engrossing 2-2 draw. Out of the 37 goals the Indians scored in seven matches, this field goal from Hardik is for sure among the top-3 best ones.

"That was a brilliant goal, no? I want to compliment myself (laughs). No, actually, the forwards cleared the area so my execution could be smooth after Sukhjeet had made some good tackles to pass the ball to me. It was a team goal. Had we won the match it would have felt more special," the vice-captain tells *DH*.

Team first, individual next is the philosophy imbibed deep in Indian men's squad and Hardik is seen as someone who readily puts the rest ahead of himself. At the just concluded Asia Cup too, the midfielder took charge to pull the team out of tricky situations multiple times while the sharp thinker's variation on the field had opponents baffled.

Hardik Singh (right) was one of India's lynchpins in their successful campaign. PTI

Be it his textbook-style goal against Korea or combining with his midfield mates to strengthen India's attacking prowess or providing extra aid to the defensive set-up, Hardik was the mover and shaker for the Indian side. And when he joined forces with senior pro Manpreet, the duo were a treat to watch on the field.

"If he (Manpreet Singh) has the momentum and is playing well, I tell him to move into the attacking side and I will take care of the centre. Same thing with me, when I go ahead he holds the centre fort. We have great coordination and understanding between us," points Hardik who is often seen spurring the crowd to get louder, especially before taking stance to inject during penalty corners.

The two-time Olympic bronze medal winners' nonchalant and fun personality is as striking as his hockey skills. Both of which Hardik had to work hard on to get comfortable with. And he credits mental conditioning coach Paddy Upton for helping him come of age.

"Back in 2023, after the World Cup, I was not in a good place mentally. I was really struggling a lot. That's when Paddy started working with the team. I really wanted to make use of this opportunity of someone like Paddy being there for us. After working with him, I have become a better player and a human being for sure. Because it's not always about how you are on the field, but also about how you deal with life. Right?"

With the narrative arching from an anxious start to dominant play for India, Hardik was one of the sturdiest of performers throughout the 10-day event.

"For a few matches our final execution wasn't happening well. The passes to the forwards weren't made as well as we would have liked. But we know we are better than the others who are here.

"I'm really happy to do the dirty work for the team, it doesn't really matter for me. The team doing well is the most important," says Hardik with a smile.

Printed and published by B A Ravi on behalf of The Printers (Mysore) Private Ltd, at The Printers (Mysore) Private Ltd, Plot nos. 7-12, Kumbalgodu Industrial Area, Bengaluru - 560 074. Executive Editor: K V Subramanya (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
Editorial Office: 75, M.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 001. E-mail: editor@deccanherald.co.in. Phone: 080-45557333, Editorial: 080-45557279/080-45557280, Circ: 080-45557204, Advt: 080-45557163/080-45557164. Also printed at Hubballi-Dharwad, Mangaluru, Kalaburagi, Davangere, Mysuru and Hosapete. © All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is prohibited. RNI No 3608/57. Registered, Regn. No: KRNA/BGE/1027/2023-2025, posted at Bangalore PSO, Mysore Road, Bengaluru - 560 026. Website: www.printersmysore.com